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EARTHQUAKE HITS KYUSHU, REGISTERS 6.9 ON SCALE

OW180545 Tokyo KYODO in English 0537 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, March 18 KYODO -- A strong earthquake hit Kyushu and other areas in western Japan around 12:36 p.m. [0336 GMT] Wednesday and weathermen issued a tsunami tidal wave warning. The Meteorological Agency said the earthquake registered a magnitude of 6.9 on the Richter scale and its focus was about 50 kilometers deep in the Sea of Hyuga about 40 kilometers off Miyazaki.

The seismic scale was 5 on the Japanese scale of 7 in Miyazaki, 4 in Sukumo, Oita, Saga, Kumamoto, Mt. Aso, Hitoyoshi, Nobeoka and Aburatsu and 3 in Kochi, Uwajima, Cape Ashisuri, Kure, Fukuoka, Hita, Unzen and Kagoshima. Minor tremors also hit other wide areas mostly in western Japan at that time, the agency said.

The quake suspended or slowed down train service on some Japanese National Railways (JNR) lines in Kyushu, JNR official said. Miyazaki airport was also closed at 12:37 p.m. [0337 GMT] for runway inspection after the quake but reopened 10 minutes later.

The Osaka District meteorological observatory said the first tsunami was observed at Cape Muroto, Kochi Prefecture, Shikoku, at 1:35 pm. [0435 GMT].

1 Killed, Damage Reported

BK180700 Hong Kong AFP in English 0651 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, March 18 (AFP) -- A strong earthquake rocked the southern Japanese islands Wednesday, killing one person and sweeping lunchtime crowds off their feet, police and eyewitnesses said. The earthquake, measuring 6.9 on the Richter scale, was recorded at 12:36 local time (0336 GMT).

A mailman was killed when a falling rock sent his delivery van into a ravine from a mountain road near Miyazaki on the east coast of Kyushu Island, police said. An elderly man in Miyazaki was injured by shingles sliding down from a rooftop, police added. There were also reports that a house was burned down in a fire following the quake.

"We felt a sudden jolt sideways and our building shook widely as it stands on a riverside," Miyazaki city official spokesman Ryoichi Umesaki said in a telephone interview. "A lot of articles on the top of lockers came crashing down. I could hardly keep standing and I clutched on to my desk." As the ground rolled violently for about three minutes in Miyazaki, porcelain toppled from shelves at China stores and windowpanes were shattered, eyewitnesses said.

The National Meteorological Agency gave tsunami (tidal wave) warnings in Kyushu and nearby coasts but lifted them after police, fishermen and crews from the Japan Broadcasting Corporation and other media had kept a vigil on waterfronts for an hour and a half. The agency had first forecast that tidal waves could rise as high as two meters (6.5 feet). But a rise of seven centimeters (2.8 inches) was the largest reading as the tide was at the ebb.

The focus of the quake was located offshore, some 40 kilometers (25 miles) east of Miyazaki and about 50 kilometers (30 miles) below the surface, the agency said. Two minor aftershocks were registered in the two hours after the major earthquake.

The epicenter was in one of several earthquake-prone spots around the Japanese Islands -- where the so-called Philippines Sea plate collides with the Eurasian continental plate. On February 27, 1981, an earthquake measuring 7.2 on the Richter scale occurred in the same area, killing two people and injuring seven.

An earthquake registering six on the Richter scale can cause severe damage, while one registering seven can cause widespread, heavy damage.

LDP, OPPOSITION AGREE ON PROVISIONAL BUDGET

OW171039 Tokyo KYODO in English 1031 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO -- The ruling Liberal Democratic Party and four opposition parties Tuesday agreed to prepare a 50-day provisional budget for the beginning of fiscal 1987, incorporating an appropriation of 1.8 trillion yen for public works.

The LDP proposed preparation of the provisional budget when the secretaries general of the LDP, Japan Socialist Party, Komeito, Democratic Socialist Party and United Social Democratic Party met at the Diet building. The opposition parties consented to the LDP's proposal to prepare the large-scale provisional budget to cope with severe economic conditions.

LDP Secretary General Noboru Takeshita asked the opposition parties for cooperation in approving the provisional budget in the Diet by the end of fiscal 1986, March 31.

Heads of the policy affairs organs of the five parties also held a meeting at which it was decided to deal with 24 bills, including four bills related to public works, by the end of fiscal 1986.

However, bills on the introduction of the hotly disputed sales tax were excluded from the list of bills to be dealt with by the end of this month, due to objection by the opposition parties. The opposition parties also rejected the handling of bills on the planned abolition of the "maruyu" system which currently allows for tax exemption on interests from small savings.

Further on Stopgap Budget

OW171327 Tokyo KYODO in English 1307 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO -- The Finance Ministry will prepare a record 7.9 trillion yen provisional budget to cover the first 50 days of fiscal 1987, which starts on April 1, ministry officials said Tuesday. This will far exceed the previous high of 3,039.7 billion yen for the fiscal 1984 stopgap budget.

The ministry has decided to prepare a huge provisional budget, including positive pump-priming measures, in view of Japan's commitment to expansion of domestic demand, made at a conference of the finance ministers and central bank governors of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialized countries, minus Italy, in Paris in February, the officials said. It has also heeded rising calls for budgetary measures to reflate the flagging Japanese economy, suffering from the strong yen, and alleviate the resulting employment unrest.

The Economic Planning Agency announced earlier in the day that Japan's gross national product (GNP), the total of goods and services produced, grew by a mere 2.5 percent last year -- the slowest rate of expansion in 12 years. Usually, a provisional budget provides for only day-to-day mandatory expenses.

The ministry wants the stopgap budget to be approved by the cabinet on March 27 and by the Diet on March 31, the officials said. The stopgap budget will include an appropriation of about 1.8 trillion yen for demand-stimulating public works -- nearly 30 percent of the public works expenditures earmarked in the full budget -- as well as for measures for expansion of housing construction as scheduled in the full budget.

The preparation of the stopgap budget is necessitated by a long delay in parliamentary debate on the full budget due to the opposition's stiff resistance to the proposed sales tax.

KANEMARU'S TAX PROPOSAL CRITICIZED BY LDP

OW171211 Tokyo KYODO in English 1159 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO -- A suggestion by Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru Monday that the government may reconsider the proposed sales tax has raised a storm of fire from Liberal Democratic Party leaders who are already smarting under party squabble on the controversial tax plan.

"It was like being shot at from the back," said Masayoshi Ito, chairman of the LDP's Policy Affairs Council, during a party meeting Tuesday. LDP Executive Council Chairman [Shintaro Abe] echoed Ito's criticism, saying Kanemaru's comment will undermine the party's efforts to promote the tax plan.

Kanemaru's remarks, however, won support from middle-ranking LDP Diet members from the Tanaka faction, the most powerful group within the ruling [party]. In a meeting Tuesday, eight members from the Tanaka faction said unless the party revises the sales tax bill there won't be a chance for it to pass Diet.

Kanemaru's remarks came during a government-LDP liaison meeting Monday in which the deputy prime minister was quoted as saying that "something should be done" about the tax plan, which has been holding up Diet business as a result of fierce opposition objection.

Kanemaru made the controversial remark amid growing dissent within the ruling party over the value-added tax on sales, which critics say will hurt LDP candidates in the two rounds of nation-wide local elections next month. Tokyo Governor Shunichi Suzuki, who is up for reelection next month, joined the antitax ranks in a speech to supporters Tuesday, saying he will oppose any LDP attempt to ram the tax bill through parliament.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Masaharu Gotoda, the government chief spokesman, came to Kanemaru's defense, saying that Kanemaru did not mean that the government should revise the tax plan "at the present time." "What the deputy prime minister was thinking is that it is essential that the Diet should first debate the tax issue. He wasn't thinking of any immediate revision," Gotoda told reporters Tuesday.

The proposed 5 percent value-added tax on sales is part of a major tax reform plan now before Diet.

Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone has insisted that he has no intention of revision or withdrawing the tax proposal from the Diet.

The opposition parties charge that in calling for the sales tax, Nakasone violated a pledge he made during election campaign not to introduce "a broadly based indirect tax."

NAKASONE REAFFIRMS INTENTION TO VISIT U.S.

OW180709 Tokyo KYODO in English 0641 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, March 18 KYODO -- Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's plan to visit the United States in late April remains unchanged, his spokesman said Wednesday.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Masaharu Gotoda made the statement at a press conference in reference to a remark made Tuesday by Susumu Nikaido, former vice president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, calling on Nakasone to give priority to domestic problems. Gotoda added that firm itinerary has yet been fixed.

Nakasone's government is under fire for trying to introduce a 5 percent sales tax from next year after pledging not to introduce a large-scale indirect tax in election campaign last June.

"We are liable to give attention to domestic politics but we should also give full attention to diplomatic issues. Relations with the United States is important..." Gotoda said.

Diplomatic sources said Nakasone wants to meet President Ronald Reagan to adjust views on trade friction and East-West relations prior to the summit meeting of seven leading non-communist industrialized countries in Vienna this June. Nakasone, meeting reporters at his official residence Wednesday, confirmed that the Foreign Ministry is in touch with the U.S. Government over his planned Washington visit.

NEW DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER, ENVOYS NAMED

OW170131 Tokyo KYODO in English 0047 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO -- Ryohei Murata, ambassador to Austria, was named deputy foreign minister Tuesday, government officials said. Murata, 57, has held the post of Austrian ambassador since 1985. He will succeed Shinichi Yanai as deputy foreign minister, who has been named ambassador to Seoul in place of Kiyohisa Mikanagi. Murata has served as director general of the Middle Eastern and African Affairs Bureau and has also worked at the Economic Affairs Bureau.

The government also appointed Kazuo Yamashita, currently the ambassador to Morocco, as envoy to Argentina, and Eijiro Noda, ambassador to India, as concurrent envoy to Bhutan.

JAPAN, FRG AGREE TO INCREASE CARGO FLIGHTS

OW171155 Tokyo KYODO in English 1151 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO -- Japan and West Germany ended two days of talks here Wednesday with an accord on increasing air cargo flights from four flights a week to five starting in April.

Japanese Transport Ministry officials said the agreement allows Japan Air Lines (JAL) and Lufthansa German Airlines to each operate five air cargo flights a week between Narita and Frankfurt, using Boeing jumbo aircraft.

The two countries also reaffirmed their previous position in favor of double-tracking by JAL, Lufthansa and another Japanese and West German carrier each, the officials said.

38TH ANNIVERSARY OF DPRK-USSR ACCORD HAILED

SK170538 Pyongyang KCNA English 0521 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Pyongyang March 17 (KCNA) -- NODONG SINMUN and MINJU CHOSON today dedicate signed articles to the 38th anniversary of the signing of the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between Korea and the Soviet Union on March 17, 1949.

NODONG SINMUN in a signed article entitled "Along the Road of Fraternal Friendship and Cooperation" says:

This agreement still contributes to social and economic progress in the two countries and to increasing the might of the socialist forces in the world.

The Korean-Soviet friendship has a long historical tradition. The Korean and the fraternal Soviet People have consistently developed their friendly relations in the interests of the two countries and in keeping with the requirements of the cause of socialism and communism, supporting and cooperating closely with each other from long ago.

The Soviet people rendered material and moral assistance to our people in the periods of the fatherland liberation war and post-war rehabilitation and construction.

The traditional Korean-Soviet friendship which was established on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism and has withstood all trials of history is gaining in scope and developing with each passing day.

The friendly and cooperative relations between the two parties, two countries and two peoples of Korea and the Soviet Union are developing onto a new higher stage notably through the visit to the Soviet Union by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and his historical meeting and talks with respected Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev in October last year.

Now these relations are in full bloom in all realms of politics, economy and culture.

The Korean people are satisfied with the development of these relations on good terms.

Today the fraternal Soviet people under the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union headed by Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev are accelerating the historical cause of building socialism and communism. Encouraged by the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, they are vigorously striving to carry out the 12th Five-Year Plan.

The Korean people sincerely rejoice over the achievements of the Soviet people.

The Soviet Union is persistently struggling to check and frustrate the imperialist moves for nuclear war and defend global peace and security. This is illustrated by the peace proposals of the Soviet party and government and by the struggle of the Soviet people to carry them into effect; among the peace proposals a proposal to realize nuclear disarmament, prevent the militarization of space and completely eliminate nuclear and chemical weapons until the close of the present century, and a proposal to turn the Asian-Pacific region into a zone of peace and cooperation free from nuclear weapons.

The Soviet Union recently advanced a proposal for removing medium-range missiles from Europe.

The proposals of the Soviet Union which reflected the noble desire and responsible stand toward world peace are enjoying the deep sympathy of the world's people.

The Korean people fully support the peace efforts and initiatives of the Soviet Union to defend world peace and security of mankind.

They treasure friendship and unity with the fraternal Soviet people.

They will advance in future, too, shoulder to shoulder with the Soviet people for ever along the road of the common struggle against imperialism and for the victory of the cause of peace, socialism and communism, and make all efforts to develop and strengthen the Korean-Soviet friendship.

The Korean people wish the fraternal Soviet people brilliant success in their endeavours to implement the decisions of the 27th Congress of the CPSU, closely rallied behind the party.

CHONGNYON FIGURE ON JAPAN'S FINGERPRINTING BILL

SK180435 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Pyongyang March 17 (KCNA) -- Ha Chang-ok, director of the Social Affairs Department of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), in his press statement dated March 13 strongly demanded that the Japanese Government authorities withdraw the "bill on partial amendments to the aliens registration act" and fundamentally revise the act in the direction of respecting the principles of international law, such as the international human rights rules and the elementary human rights of Koreans in Japan.

The "bill on amendments" to this act ignores the unanimous demand of the Koreans in Japan for the abolition of the finger-print system, the system of compulsory permanent carrying of "foreigners registration cards" and the system of penalty stipulated in the present "aliens registration act," he said, and added:

It is seeking instead to intensify supervision and control against them.

Noting that the "bill on amendments" stipulates that finger printing can be forced any time, he said this, in fact, is a revelation of the intention to treat Korean residents in Japan as if they were criminals.

He said it is entirely unreasonable for the Japanese authorities to decide to submit to the Diet the "bill on amendments" for a malrevision of the present "aliens registration act," in disregard of denunciation by public opinion at home and abroad.

MEETING MARKS U.S. CULTURAL CENTER 'ARSON'

SK171059 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1049 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Pyongyang March 17 (KCNA) — A Pyongyang meeting commemorating the fifth anniversary of the arson by South Korean students and people at the "U.S. cultural centre" in Pusan was held today at the central hall of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea.

The arson at the "U.S. cultural centre" in Pusan by South Korean students and people five years ago was an eruption of the pent-up wrath and indignation of the South Korean people against the U.S. imperialist aggressors who staged the bloodbath in Kwangju and was a just patriotic struggle to retake the lost sovereignty of the nation and achieve independence of democracy in society and the peaceful reunification of the country.

Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the LSWYK Central Committee, said this in his report at the meeting.

He pointed out that the "Team Spirit-87" joint military manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique are not a mere repetition of military exercises, but a military action intended to round off a comprehensive war system for surprise strikes at the northern half of the republic from the sky, ground and sea.

He held that the U.S. imperialists should give up the foolish dream of invading the northern half of Korea and dominating the world and withdraw from South Korea at an early date, taking along their aggression forces and nuclear weapons and all other lethal equipment.

If the South Korean authorities are interested a bit at all in preventing the danger of nuclear war now heavily befalling the nation and paving a path for the nation through dialogue and negotiation, they must refrain from paying lip-service to "dialogue" and "peace" and accede without delay to our new proposal for holding North-South high-level political and military talks and the suspended dialogues, at the same time, he stressed.

The country should be reunified by means of founding a confederal republic through the unity of the North and the South, while leaving the two social systems in the North and the South of Korea as they are, he said, and added:

All the Koreans should turn out in the nationwide struggle to found the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo in firm unity under the banner of national reunification, irrespective of ideology and idea, political view and religious belief.

U.S. TO REDUCE ROK 'TO A COMMODITY MARKET'

SK180521 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0453 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Pyongyang March 18 (KCNA) — The South Korean puppet minister of commerce and industry, back in South Korea on March 15 from a trip to the United States under the name of "trade mission," blabbed that it was necessary to regularly send a "purchase mission" to the United States, according to a report.

This revealed the scheme of the Chon Tu-hwan puppet clique to reduce South Korea further to a commodity market of the United States at the request of the master, and stripped them bare as despicable stooges of the U.S. imperialists.

Bent on intensifying economic control and plunder in South Korea, the U.S. imperialists recently demanded that the puppet clique fling open the door of the South Korean market ever wider, threatening them with a retaliation in case they failed to obey.

Scared by this, the puppet clique sent the "trade mission" to please the whim of the U.S. imperialists, while taking a market-opening step for their master.

VNS UNATTRIBUTED TALK DENOUNCES 'TEAM SPIRIT-87'

SK180715 (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea 1000 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Unattributed talk by Madam Yun Chong-won from the "Hour for Workers and Peasants" program: "Preparations for Northward Invasion and "Team Spirit" Exercise"]

[Text] Voices opposing and rejecting the "Team Spirit-87" exercise are rising more highly with each passing day at home and abroad. Because of "Team Spirit-87" the situation on the Korean peninsula has been strained to the extreme and an acute situation in which a war may break out at any moment has been created.

In staging the "Team Spirit-87" exercise this year, the United States and the Chon Tu-hwan clique are again describing it as an annual defensive exercise. However, in no way can they conceal its offensive and aggressive nature. The offensive and aggressive nature of the "Team Spirit" exercise has been clearly revealed by the scale of the troops and equipment mobilized in the exercise and by the contents of the exercise. We can also realize it from the war preparations that have been constantly carried out in this land.

The United States and the Chon Tu-hwan ring are running amok with war preparations while babbling about the nonexistent threat of southward invasion whenever they find an opportunity. The Chon Tu-hwan ring dragged in the most modern lethal weapons and equipment amounting to \$3.2 billion, including F-16 fighter-bombers, from 1982 to 1986 to expand the armaments of the South Korean Army. It is scheming to bring in weapons and equipment amounting to \$8 billion, 2.5 times more than the former amount, during the period from 1985 to 1989.

The U.S. forces in South Korea dragged in numerous weapons including some 70 F-16 fighter-bombers, 24 A-10 close-combat fighters, and approximately 100 AH-1 Cobra helicopters and Black Hawk helicopters during the period of the weapons modernization plan from 1981 to 1985. Their ground force has been armed with the most modern 155-mm howitzers.

Recently they even introduced large missiles, capable of carrying neutron bombs, and deployed them for an actual war. They are also building special nuclear storehouses in this land where more than 1,000 nuclear weapons have already been deployed. Why is such an expansion of armaments necessary?

One can find an answer to this question even from the violent remarks made by the U.S. and South Korea ruling authorities. Reagan inspected the DMZ on the armistice line when he visited South Korea in 1983 and openly said that nuclear weapons should be used on the Korean peninsula in an emergency. Schlesinger, former U.S. defense secretary, said that a nuclear attack would be made on the heart of the North.

Noting that the first 3 days of a war are the decisive period, the United States and the Chon Tu-hwan clique changed their 9-day operational plan to a 3-day operational plan. It is clear to everyone that their remarks were made with a preemptive nuclear attack in mind.

In a meeting of the National Defense Committee of the National Assembly in March of 1984, Yun Song-min, former defense minister, stressed that special attack forces were being operated in the frontline area, mobile strike forces consisted of the military, the government, and civilians in the rear area, and that combat posture had been perfected by organizing crack units comprising of homeland reserve forces and civil defense corps. His remarks mean that preparations for northward invasion have been completed.

Furthermore, since long ago, the combat operational plan and command system of the armed forces were reorganized into a northward offensive posture according to U.S. offensive strategy. As for the South Korean Army, special units were organized in all service branches and in units above the battalion level that were capable of carrying out commando operations under the operational command of the special warfare command. Mobile units capable of carrying out independent operations were drastically reinforced.

Today nearly 80 to 90 percent of the U.S. forces in South Korea and the South Korean Army have been deployed in advanced areas and even assigned with attack targets in the North. What will be the next move under such circumstances? Needless to say, it is to ignite the fully-loaded gunpowder. War exercises staged almost every day in this land, small or large, and particularly the "Team spirit-87" U.S.-South Korea joint military exercise are a preliminary war and test nuclear war designed to put the plan of northward aggressive war provocation into practice. In other words, these are a preliminary war aimed at igniting the fully loaded gunpowder. We can realize from Chon Tu-hwan's remarks that "Team Spirit" is an active and offensive training exercise and that this exercise should be immediately launched into a real battle should such a situation emerge during the exercise.,

Workers and peasants: If a war breaks out today, it will be a nuclear war and our people cannot avoid the grave calamities that are incomparable to those of the past Korean war. Therefore, all people, including our workers and peasants, should resolutely rise in the struggle to immediately check and frustrate "Team Spirit-87". Patriotic masses from all walks of life should rise to stop "Team Spirit-87" by upholding antiwar and antinuclear slogans.

We should check and frustrate all other exercises which the United States and the Chon Tu-hwan clique plan to stage. In order to permanently end the "Team spirit" exercise and eliminate the danger of war on the Korean peninsula, we should force the U.S. troops to withdraw from South Korea, together with all lethal weapons including nuclear weapons. We should also work out measures to change the Armistice Agreement to a peace agreement and to adopt a nonaggression declaration between the North and the South.

The masses from all walks of life including the workers and peasants should struggle to check and frustrate "Team Spirit" by upholding the antiwar and antinuclear slogans and should more courageously wage the anti-U.S. struggle for independence to put an end to U.S. occupation of South Korea.

DEFECTOR: DPRK ARMY 'POISED TO LAUNCH ATTACK'

SK180313 Seoul YONHAP in English 0246 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Seoul, March 18 (YONHAP) -- The North Korean Army has finished making war preparations and is poised to launch attack on South Korea when there is chance for an invasion, a North Korean soldier who defected to South Korea, said Wednesday.

In a press conference, Sgt. Yu Chun-su, 24, a former member of the 5th Company of a Civil Police Battalion of the 8th North Korean Army Division, said that according to recent rumors circulating among North Korean soldiers, "something unusual will take place in connection with the 24th Summer Olympic Games in Seoul." Yu defected to the South on March 7 across the western part of the Demilitarized Zone separating South and North Korea.

Due to incessant indoctrination, the people and army of North Korea are "firmly convinced" that "only war can liberate South Korea and expedite the unification of the divided peninsula," Yu said.

Late last month, the North Korean Defense Ministry instructed all army officers to strengthen their combat readiness and the surveillance system of all armed forces under their command. Under the instruction, army units deployed in front-line areas have been undergoing harsh military training, practicing nocturnal infiltration tactics and making thorough inspections of mine positions and firearms, Yu said.

Although high-ranking army officers claimed that the Mt. Kumkang Dam was being built for the sole purpose of generating electric power, rumors circulating among soldiers in low-echelon positions had it that the dam was designed to "wash away" the Seoul metropolitan area in South Korea, Yu said. The dam construction project, now under way just north of the Demilitarized Zone, has aroused much fear in South Korea that it could be used for political and military purposes, creating the ability to launch a massive water attack against the South. The North Korean Defense Ministry is in charge of the dam construction project, and tens of thousands of North Korean soldiers have been mobilized to build the dam, according to Yu.

North Korea is conducting a vigorous anti-Seoul Olympics propaganda campaign, saying that South Korea is incapable of hosting the 1988 olympics because it is overrun with beggars, hoodlums, pollution and various diseases, Yu added. "Even if the games are held in Seoul, many countries will not take part in them," Yu quoted a propaganda catchphrase as saying.

In connection with the defection of Kim Man-chol and his 10 family members to the South early last month, Yu said that the North Korean media are demanding that the defectors be sent back to North Korea. Kim and his family members escaped from North Korea to Japan in an environmental patrol boat and later went to South Korea, in accordance with their wishes.

According to North Korean propaganda, however, they were carried onto Japanese shores by high waves and strong winds while vacationing in a cruise ship. Therefore, the North Korean media argue, they must be sent back to "the bosom of the great benevolent leader Kim Il-song as soon as possible." South Korea is using every possible means to "forcibly" keep them in the South, Yu quoted the North Korean media as saying.

DJP BEGINS WORK ON NEW ASSEMBLY POST LINEUP

SK180046 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 18 Mar 87 p 2

[Text] The ruling Democratic Justice Party has started the selection of replacements for the speaker, vice speaker and chairmen of the National Assembly's 13 standing committees whose two-year terms expire May 13.

A party official said yesterday that the party held a high-level consultation meeting with the government at Chongwadae Monday to discuss guidelines for the selection of replacements.

They agreed to select successors by next month, he added.

The change in the Assembly's major posts may lead to a reshuffle of some of the party and the cabinet posts, said the official.

He said, "The reshuffle of the Assembly's major posts in May is expected to be larger in scope than at any previous time. I understand that the party is now choosing successors from among lawmakers who have been elected to the Assembly twice or more."

Expecting that some of the replacements may be selected from among the party's key officeholders, he predicted that there may also be a reshuffle in the party and the cabinet.

YI MIN-U, KIM YONG-SAM RESOLVE NKDP DISPUTE

SK180037 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 18 Mar 87 p 1

[Text] The internal trouble in the main opposition New Korea Democratic Party [NDP] between its president, Yi Min-u and de facto leaders, Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung, came to a settlement last night at Yi and kim were reconciled in a blitz get-together.

The party president and the two Kims, particularly Kim Yong-sam, have been in conflict with each other over the party's strategies for constitutional revision in connection with Yi's call for democratic reforms first prior to inter-party negotiations on the amendment. The party was driven into a crisis to a point of being split up.

Yi and Kim Yong-sam narrowed their differences over the real meaning of Yi's formula for democratic reforms, which they said caused misunderstandings among the people.

After the meeting, which lasted for about two hours and 40 minutes, the two announced a four-point agreement to iron out the intra-party feud through former spokesman Rep. Hong Sa-tok.

"As party president Yi asserted repeatedly, the so-called Yi Min-u formula has not the slightest intention of giving up the goal of attaining the direct presidential election system or agreeing on an amendment for the parliamentary cabinet system," the agreement said.

"We express our regrets that there was, however, misunderstanding among the people concerning Yi's formula, no matter what the reasons were," it said.

"We reconfirmed that a constitutional amendment for the direct presidential election system is the shortcut to democratic reforms and a clear party strategy, and it is an unalterable party policy along with an optional plebiscite to choose the form of the next government."

Rep. Hong said that the two agreed to counter resolutely any behavior damaging the party policy and impeding intra party unity.

The two also confirmed in the agreement that "Yi's offer does not premise an inter-party agreements on a revision for the parliamentary cabinet system."

"We will hold a meeting with Kim Tae-chung at an early date to discuss various intra-party problems, including the holding of a national convention (originally slated for May) and will continue to cooperate with each other," the agreement said.

The two renewed that their friendship, which they have been proud of, could never be damaged, according to the statement. Yi has been a core member of the "Sangdo-dong faction" led by Kim.

However, the two did not discuss the issue of reforming the party hierarchy, which has been the main element causing the intra-party feuds along with the party's strategies for constitutional amendment.

Kim and his followers are seeking to replace Yi with Kim as party president in the national convention "without a vote showdown."

After his meeting with Kim, Yi stressed that the party president should be elected in a voting contest, opposing the idea of Kim and his followers.

He said, "In a democratic political party, the party president should be elected through competitions among party members."

Returning to his home in Samyang-dong, the party president, however, reiterated that the form of the next government, either government led by the president to be elected through popular vote, or prime minister-led government, is of little importance, unless democratic reforms are made first.

"My emphasis for democratic reforms should never be nullified," he said.

He also said the NDP affairs should be discussed by the three -- himself, and the two Kims -- from now on, showing his displeasure with hitherto the two Kims' exclusion of him.

Meanwhile, Kim Yong-sam told reporters at his house, when he was asked if Yi's idea may be nullified, "I'd not like to use the term 'nullify'." He said Yi would not reiterate his theory of democratic reform first.

He also said he would meet Kim Tae-chung today to discuss party affairs following his meeting with Yi, including the question of holding local chapters' conventions, which have been postponed due to the two Kim's declaration to not participate.

'Text' of Joint Statement

SK180041 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 18 Mar 87 p 1

[**"Text"** of four-point joint statement issued by Yi Min-u and Kim Yong-sam after their meeting on the internal dispute of the NKDP]

[Text] 1. We have confirmed again that we have no intentions of giving up the party's policy of seeking direct presidential elections and that we would not accept the cabinet system. We have expressed regrets over the fact that whatever the reasons, there have been misunderstandings among the people on our positions.

2. We have shared the view that restoring direct presidential elections is the surest and fastest way of realizing the nation's democratization. We reaffirm that there has been no change in seeking direct presidential elections and calling for a national referendum on the form of the next government. We will resist any moves undermining the party's official policy and harming the unity of the party.

3. The 7-point democratization proposal called Yi Min-u idea is a reiteration of demands the party has consistently made since its inauguration. As Yi made it clear in his New Year press conference, the proposal is not a precondition for accepting the cabinet system.

4. We have agreed to meet with Kim Tae-chung at an early date to discuss matters concerning the party's national convention and various other issues. We also pledge to intensify cooperation among us.

NKDP TO DISCIPLINE CABINET ADVOCATE YI CHOL-SUNG

SK180049 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 18 Mar 87 p 2

[Text] The New Korea Democratic Party yesterday decided to begin proceeding this week to discipline Rep. Yi Chol-sung for advocating a cabinet form of government.

The party's Disciplinary Committee is to be convened this week to judge whether Yi violated party regulations. It will also decide on the form of the disciplinary measure.

The decision was made at a meeting of the Executive Council, the party's top decision-making body.

During the meeting, the mainstreamers, or deputies of Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung, demanded Yi be disciplined, they said he had several times violated the party's official line of seeking direct presidential elections.

Yi, a minor faction leader of the party, replied that his announcements of support for the cabinet system came from his "private opinion" but he cannot withdraw them.

He said he will present a motion calling for the change of the official party line to the party's national convention slated for May.

Yi denounced the two Kims and their supporters "for bringing the party into chaos."

Yi walked out of the meeting, saying he feels no need to further talk about the issue "in this atmosphere."

Yi has several times announced his advocacy of a "genuine" parliamentary system.

The NKDP decided at a meeting of key officeholders on Feb. 23 to discipline Yi.

The next day, some 150 of his supporters seized the party headquarters and staged a five-day sit-in in protest of the decision.

COURT SENTENCES THREE FOR FOUNDING ILLEGAL PARTY

SK180043 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 18 Mar 87 p 3

[Text] The Seoul District Court yesterday sentenced Pae Chin-ho, 24, and two others who were arrested and indicted for having attempted to organize the "Marxist-Leninist Party," to three to five years in prison.

The three defendants, who are charged with the violation of the National Security Law, were also sentenced to suspension of their civil rights for three to five years.

Family members of the defendants said the harsh sentence was not acceptable. The prison terms were given based only on the statements made by the defendants while under illegal custody and duress, they insisted.

PRISON SENTENCE OF MINTONGNYON MEMBER UPHELD

SK180051 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 18 Mar 87 p 3

[Text] An appellate court yesterday upheld the seven-year prison term given to Chang Ki-pyo, 41, chief policy planner of the dissident group called "Mintongnyon," by a lower court.

The Seoul Appellate Court also upheld the suspension of Chang's civil rights for three years. Chang was accused of playing a leading role in the riotous demonstrations in Inchon in May last year.

Judge Kim Pu-mu made the ruling after ousting the defendant from the courtroom because he continuously made antigovernment remarks.

FOURTH ASSEMBLY SESSION ENDS 'SUCCESSFULLY'

BK131624 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 13 Mar 87

[Text] The fourth session of the Fourth People's Assembly of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma continued for the 5th day today at 1000 in the People's Assembly conference hall in Rangoon. It was attended by 470 assembly representatives led by U San Yu, president and chairman of the State Council.

Today's session was chaired by U Rakwi Pung, representative from Kachin State's Putao constituency. U Aung Khin Tint, director general of the People's Assembly office, officiated as secretary of the meeting.

The presiding chairman first announced that of the eligible 485 assembly representatives, 470 were present, representing 96.98 percent attendance. He then declared the meeting open and valid.

As the meeting began, U Sein Lwin, secretary of the State Council, replied to the discussion of the assembly representatives on the report submitted by the State Council. The report was put on record after being approved by the People's Assembly.

Next, Thura U Tun Tin, deputy prime minister and minister of finance and planning, on behalf of the Council of Ministers, replied to the discussions of the assembly representatives on the report on the 1987 Economic Plan Production and Service Objectives Bill and the report on the 1987-88 financial, economic, and social conditions. The assembly then voted on the 1987 Economic Plan Production and Services Bill. The bill was voted on by open ballot by assembly representatives pressing buttons. The presiding chairman later announced that the bill had been passed by a more than 75 percent approval, the minimum required.

As the meeting continued, the presiding chairman announced that the report on 1987-88 financial, economic, and social conditions submitted by the State Council had been put on record following approval by the assembly.

After U Maung Maung Kha, prime minister, replied to questions of the assembly representatives on the report of the Council of Ministers, the presiding chairman announced that the report had been approved by the assembly.

The meeting briefly recessed after the presiding chairman announced that the report of the Council of People's Justices had been approved by the assembly following replies given by U Tin Aung Hein, chairman of the Council of People's Justices, to questions on the report by assembly representatives.

In the afternoon session, the presiding chairman announced that the report of the Council of People's Attorneys had been approved by the assembly following a reply to the questions by assembly representatives on the report by U Myint Maung, chairman of the Council of People's Attorneys.

Next, Thura U Tun Tin, deputy prime minister and minister of finance and planning, replied to questions by assembly then voted on the bill by open ballot. The presiding chairman later announced that the 1987 State Appropriations Bill had been passed as it received more than 75 percent approval, the minimum required.

As the meeting continued, U Aung Khin, member of the Council of People's Inspectors, replied to representatives' discussions on the report of the Council of People's Inspectors. The presiding chairman announced that the report had been approved by the assembly. Next, U Hla Kyaw Aung, secretary of the Elections Commission, replied to questions on the commission's report by assembly representatives. The report was then put on record.

The presiding chairman announced that reports on the actions taken by the State Council and central organs of power in response to questions by the assembly representatives during the third session of the Fourth People's Assembly had been distributed to the representatives. The presiding chairman then reported on the good-will visit to Burma by a delegation led by Mr Mark O. Hatfield, chairman of the U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee.

The meeting ended successfully at 1400 after the resolutions of the fourth session of the Fourth People's Assembly were signed by the presiding chairman.

PARTY LEADERS MEET, GIVE GUIDANCE TO OFFICIALS

BK171439 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] U Aye Ko, general secretary of the Burma Socialist Program Party [BSPP], provided necessary guidance to the chairmen of regional party committees and state and divisional people's councils, members of the Peasants Organization Central Executive Committee, and ministers of several ministries concerned at a meeting at the conference hall of the BSPP Central Committee headquarters at 0900 today. Present were U Sein Lwin, BSPP joint general secretary; U Tun Yi, U Hla Tun, U Sein Tun, and Thura U Saw Pru, members of the BSPP Central Executive Committee; U Tha Kyaw, chairman of the Party Discipline Committee; U Khin Maung Gyi, minister of trade; U Than Hlaing, minister of cooperatives; Brigadier General Than Nyunt, minister of agriculture and forests; responsible officials of the BSPP Central Committee headquarters; chairmen of regional party committees; chairmen of state and divisional People's Councils; members of the Peasants Organization Central Executive Committee; and responsible officials of the offices of the State Council and the Council of Ministers.

The meeting was chaired by U Aye Ko, BSPP general secretary. U Kyaw Sein Win, head of the Organisation Department, officiated as secretary of the meeting.

The general secretary delivered a speech discussing 1986-87 paddy cultivation, production, procurement, and transport, and rice distribution; cultivation of oil crops and winter crops; fish and shrimp production; forest conservation; goods distribution by cooperatives; the progress of education and organizational programs for workers in mills and factories; and work objectives for 1987-88.

The meeting was recessed after the speech. Following the recess, U Sein Lwin, BSPP joint general secretary, presided over the meeting. He delivered a speech on the basic principles to be observed in the cultivation and production of paddy as well as the objectives for 1987-88.

Later, officials discussed the work being carried out in the cultivation, production, and procurement of paddy and the distribution of rice. The joint general secretary then dealt with programs aimed at reducing commodity prices, arrangements to deliver goods to consumers on a regular and timely basis, and the organizing role of different levels of peasants organizations in cultivation, production, and procurement of paddy and rice.

The meeting ended in the afternoon.

PRACHEACHON HAILS RECENT SHEVARDNADZE VISIT

BK151227 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1114 GMT 15 Mar 87

[*"A New Development in Kampuchea-USSR Friendship Relations"* -- SPK headline]

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK March 15 -- The visit to Kampuchea by Soviet Foreign Minister E. Shevardnadze is an event of great significance for the peoples of Kampuchea and the Soviet Union and is a decisive factor for the further development of friendship, solidarity and all-round cooperation between the two countries, says the bi-weekly "PRACHEACHON" (People), organ of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, in its latest editorial.

The visit took place at a time when the army and people of Kampuchea recorded great successes in their national defence and construction, especially in implementing the 1986-90 socio-economic rehabilitation and development programme. It constitutes a source of encouragement for the Kampuchean people and a contribution to strengthening and consolidating the friendship, solidarity and cooperation between Kampuchea and the Soviet Union on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism in the interests of peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the world over.

The Soviet Union's clear and firm stance toward the three Indochinese countries has been demonstrated through its support for the constructive and goodwill proposals advanced by the three Indochinese countries at their foreign ministerial conferences, aimed at promoting dialogue between two groups of countries -- Indochinese and ASEAN -- in order to find a political settlement acceptable to both sides for the Kampuchea question and at building Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability and cooperation.

The Soviet foreign minister also stated clearly that the three Indochinese countries could rely on the Soviet Union's constant support and assistance to defend their freedom and independence, strengthen their ties of multiform cooperation, solidarity and mutual assistance and to ease tension in the region and maintain peace and security in the region.

The Kampuchea people greatly rejoice at the fine results of E.A. Shevardnadze's visit to Kampuchea. The government and people of Kampuchea express their profound gratitude to the party, government and people of the Soviet Union for their great, heartfelt support and assistance to the just cause of the Kampuchean revolution.

As clearly defined by the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, the constant strengthening and consolidation of the ties of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance in all fields between the PRK and the USSR on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism in the interests of socialist community and the communists and workers movement constitutes a basis for the domestic and foreign policies of our party and people, an internationalist obligation of the Kampuchean party and people and a factor which guarantees our cause of national defence and construction.

PARTY-STAFF DELEGATION VISITS TEXTILE MILL WORKERS

BK180601 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] A party and state delegation led by Comrade Chea Soth, member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, visited and chatted with cadres, personnel, and workers at the Pochentong No 1 Textile Mill on the morning of 17 March. Comrade Chea Soth joined them in their work in a most cordial and warm atmosphere. He later heard a report presented by Comrade Khor Seng, head of the mill, which glorified the great achievements made by the fraternal personnel and workers of the textile mill in 1986 representing more than 93 percent of the plan entrusted by the state. He also learned about a number of requests of the local personnel and workers concerning various aspects related to the improvement of production of all types of cloth, such as means of production, equipment, spare parts, labor force, and living conditions of the personnel.

Speaking on this occasion, Comrade Chea Soth highly admired the hard work of the fraternal personnel and workers who have spared no efforts to produce all kinds of cloth by increasing both yield and quality in the mill. He urged the mill director and all cadres, personnel, and workers to further heighten their sense of revolutionary vigilance to manage and protect the factory well, increase production, and strictly observe discipline and regulations in order to advance toward fulfilling the state plan in 1987 and also to pay close attention to building a true revolutionary force within the working class, transforming the latter into a pioneer class of the party and inducting highly effective new members of the party, core groups, youth union, and mass organizations.

ENEMY PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE TACTICS DISCUSSED

BK140349 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 13 Mar 87

[KANGTOAP PADEVOAT editorial: "Heighten the Spirit of Smashing in Time the Enemy's Poisonous Psychological Warfare in All Fields"]

[Text] After the enemy suffered a stunning and serious defeat along the Cambodian-Thai border during the 1984-85 dry season when we crushed the bulk of its forces, the survivors were dispersed, some of them fleeing to Thailand and some others hiding in the jungles, starved, running short of ammunition and medicine, bereft of shelters, and losing mastery and fighting spirit as they encountered growing obstacles and difficulties. This grave defeat has brought forth irreconcilable differences among the three reactionary Khmer groups within the so-called Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, which was shaken from top-level apparatus down to the rank and file. Their inner circles have been riddled with disputes and confusion. They have sought by all means to seize power and to tear at each other's throats. Beset by defeatist feelings and no longer nurturing any hope of winning victory over our revolution, an increasing number of enemy elements have surrendered to our authorities.

However, despite heavy and successive setbacks, the enemy still stubbornly struggles frantically to step up its activities, seeking by all means to block and undermine the all-round progress of our Cambodian revolution. Besides implementing a scorched earth policy toward our people, especially in remote, outlying regions, the enemy is now vigorously undertaking psychological warfare against us, which is a very dangerous and perfidious form of the undeclared war. The enemy usually spreads reports contrary to reality and exaggerates or distorts the truth about the political line of our party and state and about their deceptive victories with a view to boosting the sagging morale of his men and causing confusion among our people. He ballyhoos peace, neutrality, and national reconciliation, and noisily trumpets an offer of negotiations.

At the same time, he frenziedly uses all tricks to buy our allegiance and induce our men with money, gold, rare consumer goods, pretty women, alcoholic drinks, and gambling as lures. This is one of the most poisonous tricks to shake the fighting spirit of our Army and people, splitting our inner circles, and undermining Cambodia-Vietnam-Laos solidarity in order to weaken our forces and make it easy for them to massacre our people at will as they used to do in the past and are doing at present.

For this reason, all cadres and combatants must clearly analyze the enemy of our Cambodian revolution, unmask him, and crush all his dark maneuvers in time. It is imperative to constantly enhance our hatred and indignation. We must recall the bitter history of the 3 years, 8 months, and 20 days when the ruling Pol Pot gang starved and massacred our people in a most brutal and savage manner. We must transform this hatred and indignation into a powerful and raging struggle to prevent the enemy from rearing his head again. We must not allow him to put propaganda and win us to his side through the use of ideological or material gimmicks or any other despicable methods. We must always be on guard against rumors, truth-distorting reports, or soothing and caressing remarks concocted to sap our fighting spirit. We must actively join the study and search to understand the party's political line by enthusiastically listening to our radio and reading our newspapers to closely follow the domestic and foreign situation while resolutely paying no attention to the radios of the enemy. We must successfully and strictly implement all regulations and disciplinary rules, refraining from moving around freely without good order. We must always be combat ready and avoid carelessness or pacifism. The leading cadres must be close to their combatants and grasp the moral situation in their respective units. When there are enemy propaganda activities, they must have countermeasures ready to retaliate, fight back, expose, and find out the source of evil in time.

We must cooperate with the people and help them to clearly see the development of the revolution during the past 8 years and more, keeping them from having illusions, protecting them from the enemy's psychological warfare tactics, and turning into eyes and ears against enemy infiltration attempts so that they can inform the Army or authorities to crush these attempts in time. At the same time, we must implement the work of persuading the misled persons to return to the fold by pursuing the 6-point humanitarian and fair policy of our party and state in order to sap the strength of the enemy and prevent him from rearing his head again.

We must pay attention to strengthening and expanding the Armed Forces and raise their patriotic feelings and love for the country and revolution, promote their courage, and enhance their confidence in our new regime and in the correct leadership of our KPRP. We must preserve and heighten our internal as well as international solidarity, particularly Cambodia-Vietnam-Laos solidarity, for it constitutes the factor determining all victories of our Cambodian revolution. If we can do that, all psychological warfare maneuvers of the enemy will surely fail and we will hear from them again.

SPK REPORTS MISLED PERSONS RETURN IN BATTAMBANG

BK170745 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0425 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Phnom Penh, 17 Mar (SPK) -- Convinced of the 6-point clemency policy of the Cambodian party and state, 55 persons misled by enemy propaganda returned to the revolution in Battambang District, Battambang Province, during the first 2 months of this year.

These returnees, including 17 Pol Pot soldiers, brought along 49 weapons and other war materiel. It should be noted that in 1986, this locality received 266 misled persons, including 191 Sereika soldiers and 75 Pol Pot soldiers, with 133 weapons.

VOK COMMENTS ON SHEVARDNADZE'S ASIA-PACIFIC TOUR

BK150320 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0500 GMT 14 Mar 87

[Political commentary: "Outcome of Shevardnadze's Visit"]

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze's visit to the Asia-Pacific region, including the communist countries which are Soviet satellites and noncommunist countries which oppose Soviet policy in this region, caused great excitement in the world because it is known to all that the Soviet Union plays a significant role in bringing peace or war to this region.

To the Cambodian people, Shevardnadze's visit is also an important issue because the Soviet Union is the cause of the flame of the Vietnamese war of aggression in Cambodia. We regard the Soviet Union as the important key to the settlement of the Cambodian problem.

Now, let's take a look at the outcome of this visit to see whether it has brought about any prospects, particularly regarding the settlement of the Cambodian problem. Before his departure from Moscow, various foreign newspapers wrote hopefully that Shevardnadze might be bringing the ASEAN countries a new idea which might possibly help solve the Cambodian problem. In Bangkok, Shevardnadze stated that he agreed that foreign troops should be withdrawn from Cambodia and that the settlement of the conflicts in Afghanistan might serve as an example for the settlement of the Cambodian problem. Shevardnadze's statement might have caused some circles to place their trust in the Soviet Union, thinking that the Soviet Union really is trying to reach the settlement of the Cambodian problem, that this might be an effort in accordance with Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev's Vladivostok statement in July, or that this is the Soviet effort to fulfill China's 3-point conditions regarding normalization of Soviet relations with China, or that this might be an attempt to please the ASEAN countries which are being courted by the Soviet Union to prevent Vietnam from being too isolated. However, some other circles realized that there is nothing noteworthy in this statement because the Afghan and Cambodian issues are quite different. This is because the Kabul regime is a legal government which is recognized by the United Nations while the Heng Samrin regime is not the legitimate representative of the Cambodian people.

When he arrived in Indonesia, Shevardnadze said indifferently that the Soviet Union would not interfere in the Cambodian problem when Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmadja called on the Soviet Union to use its influence to make Vietnam withdraw its troops from Cambodia.

In Vietnam, Shevardnadze did not indicate whether the Soviet Union is willing to solve the Cambodian problem.

For this reason, we think that Shevardnadze's visit was just a trip to launch propaganda in this region in an attempt to make others believe that the Soviet Union and its satellites love peace, using this as a means to persuade China and the ASEAN countries to agree to have good political relations with the Soviet Union and its Vietnamese satellite and to recognize the Heng Samrin regime as a legitimate government.

The results of Shevardnadze's effort are just bad eggs in Australia and a bomb blast in Laos.

We will keep on watching what will the Soviet Union get from its policy in Indochina together with the Hanoi bandits, whether the world will believe in the Soviet propaganda, and whether the Cambodian people will be fooled by the deceitful words of the big boss of the Vietnamese aggressors.

1,500 WORKERS FREED IN BATTAMBANG 9 MAR

BK160206 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 15 Mar 87

[Text] In March, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors forcibly rounded up 1,500 of our compatriots to build dams and defense networks to protect Battambang provincial town. Upon receiving this information, on the night of 9 March, our National Army, in cooperation with these workers and patriotic Cambodian soldiers, launched attacks to wipe out the defense network south of Battambang town and dismantle Vietnamese commune and village administrative networks in Sangke District adjoining the southern part of Battambang town. He liberated 30 villages and killed or wounded 59 Vietnamese enemy soldiers. This caused great confusion in and around Battambang town.

Taking advantage of this great confusion and panic among the Vietnamese soldiers, 1,500 workers fled home. Our people are determined to cooperate with the DK National Army to smash the Vietnamese enemy's K-5 plan. It is to be noted that these 1,500 workers and compatriots actively took part in these attacks against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors.

VONADK REPORTS 30,000 'RECRUITS' FLEE HOME

BK150127 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 14 Mar 87

[Text] In March, the Vietnamese enemy forcibly recruited 30,000 inhabitants from Phnum Srok, Sisophon, Mongkolborei, Preah Net Preah, and Kralanh districts of Battambang Province to clear bushes and build dams as defense networks of the Vietnamese positions in Phnum Srok District of Battambang Province.

Upon hearing this, our National Army attacked the Vietnamese soldiers guarding these inhabitants. We killed or wounded a number of them, causing chaos in this area. While the Vietnamese in this area were in a great panic, the inhabitants mutinied against the Vietnamese aggressors, killing or wounding a number of them, and fled back home. Our people pledge to resolutely fight and totally smash the Vietnamese enemy's K-5 plan.

BRIEFS

BOU THANG VISITS RATANAKIRI -- Phnom Penh, 13 Mar (SPK) -- Bou Thang, member of the Political Bureau of the KPRP Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and the KUFNCD National Council, visited Ratanakiri Province, 350 km northeast of Phnom Penh. Speaking at a meeting of the provincial front, Bu Thang praised the achievements scored by people and authorities in the province and called on the audience to actively contribute to national construction and defense. He also visited units of Vietnamese volunteers and praised their sacrifice for the Cambodian revolution. [Summary] [Phnom Penh SPK in French 0405 GMT 13 Mar 87 BK]

CHEA SOTH VISITS FACTORY -- On the afternoon of 11 March, Comrade Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, visited and had cordial conversation with cadres, personnel, and workers of Tor-6 factory at Stoeng Meanchey in the suburb of Phnom Penh. Speaking on that occasion, Comrade Chea Soth highly valued and hailed the feats made by workers at Tor-6 factory who have tirelessly striven to surmount all obstacles and made splendid achievements. [Excerpt] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 12 Mar 87 BK]

CONFERENCE RUN ON EMPLOYEE SHOPS, FAMILY ECONOMY

BK170507 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1400 GMT 15 Mar 87

[Text] A conference to draw lessons on state employee shops and family economy in the central areas was held in Vientiane from 11 to 14 March under the chairmanship of Vanthong Sengmouang, minister of trade. More than 250 representatives of various services in Vientiane municipality and province participated. The conference was very successful and many lessons were drawn with a view to promoting and developing the work concerned. It was noted that fundamentally state employee shops should be of appropriate size and have adequate funds for carrying out and expanding business activities. At the same time, they must sign contracts or establish trade relations with business production units, cooperatives, localities, and operators of the family economies.

With regard to the family economy, the state must set up regulations on the distribution of land to families of state employees. All organizations with facilities must provide sufficient support, assistance, and conveniences to them. Offices and organizations must organize guidance and assistance to their respective employees in carrying out the family economy by relying on local conditions and resources. Past experience has told us that if the leadership concerned pays attention to organizing guidance and assistance, the operation of state employee shops and the family economy is carried out smoothly, state employees enjoy good life, and a joyous atmosphere prevails. On the contrary, if the leadership concerned fails to pay adequate attention to this, the operation of state employee shops and the family economy is sluggish or carried out incorrectly.

The conference unanimously acknowledged that the policy adopted by the Political Bureau on the adjustment of salaries and the improvement of the living conditions of cadres and the new salary mechanism are correct. The implementation of the new salary policy over the past 2 years has served to clearly improve the living conditions of state employees, thereby basically normalizing the market situation and bringing more happiness to and encouraging state employees to work more efficiently than before. The conference also expressed deep gratitude to the party Central Committee Political Bureau and the Council of Ministers, especially to General Secretary and Chairman of the Council of Ministers Kaysone Phomvihan, for being consistently concerned with the living conditions of state employees and paying close attention to guiding the implementation of the new salary and price policies. Attending the closing ceremony of the conference were members of the party Central Committee Political Bureau Nouhak Phoumsavan, Phoumi Vongvichit, Phoun Sipaseut, Sali Vongkhamsao, Maichantan Sengmani, and Saman Vi-gnaket along with standing members of the Council of Ministers, ministers, deputy ministers, and chairmen and vice chairmen of many equivalent state committees.

THAI ROLE IN CAMBODIAN CONFLICT CRITICIZED

BK171355 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Unattributed commentary: "The Cambodian Problem Must Be Settled on the Basis of Facts About Cambodia"]

[Text] Respected listeners, Southeast Asia has become a stage for political disputes and military confrontation. There are disputes and confrontation between the various counterrevolutionary reactionaries on the one side, and on the other side the various nations in the region which have struggled for their right to self-mastery and to lead the region to the trend of peace, friendship, and cooperation in place of the disputes and confrontation.

The present political disputes and military confrontation are centered around the Cambodian problem. This is why Cambodia has become one of the great sources of news for the Southeast Asia region.

The ASEAN countries, with the ultrarightist group in Thailand as the principal, and backed by the United States and international reactionaries, have tried to cook up various stories in order to keep Cambodia in the news. They have repeated again and again the story that the so-called instability in Southeast Asia is the result of the occupation of Cambodia by Vietnam, that Vietnam must withdraw its troops from Cambodia, and that Vietnam must hold talks with the so-called CGDK. They have cooked up this story just to satisfy themselves. It does not conform at all with the true situation in Cambodia because it has been created by their subjective ideas.

Facts about the history of Cambodia are that 8 years ago, during a period of nearly 4 years when Cambodia was under the rule of the Pol Pot clique, Cambodia -- a civilized country for hundreds of years -- was turned back to the beginnings of human society. It was a period when more than 3 million Cambodian people were killed, the economic and cultural establishments which had been energetically set up by the Cambodian people over many years were destroyed, the basic rights of the population were trampled underfoot, and the sound of traditional songs and music of the people were not heard.

Concentration camps were set up everywhere for detaining people and rounding up laboring people like animals. Relations between husbands and wives and between parents and children as well as relations among the people in the society were broken down. The market and currency were stamped out while schools were closed. As a result, all of Cambodia fell into silence and fear. The people earned their living like slaves without a nation or land. The people, and even ghosts if there were any, could not tolerate such a vicious system -- the likes of which had never before been seen in the history of mankind.

Where there is oppression or intimidation, there is opposition. The united act of rising up and fighting against the oppression and intimidation of the Pol Pot clique by the Cambodian people with assistance from Vietnam was necessary and in conformity with this rule. This is the main reason why the Vietnamese troops have been stationed in Cambodia. Taking the views of those who maintain justice, one can see that by joining with the Cambodian people in driving away the murderous Pol Pot clique and saving the lives of millions of Cambodian people from the genocidal regime, the Vietnamese troops are like those who generously help extinguish a fire burning down another person's home. Those who are generouslike that should be praised.

But, why then do the counterrevolutionary reactionaries, in particular the pro-U.S. ultrarightist group in Thailand and the international reactionaries, refuse to accept this fact? They still stick to the idea that the presence of the Vietnamese troops in Cambodia poses a danger to southeast Asia and Thailand despite the announcements by the Vietnamese side on many occasions that its troops in Cambodia are not dangerous to anybody and that they will not violate the sovereignty of Thailand.

Along with fabricating news about Cambodia, the ultrarightist group in Thailand, who have been supported with money and weapons by the U.S. imperialists and international reactionaries have assisted the Cambodian reactionaries in military training and allowed them to use Thai territory as the rear area and permitted the transportation of weapons to the Pol Pot clique and the Cambodian reactionaries enabling them to carry out activities sabotaging the revival of the Cambodian people. More serious still, their forces have regularly organized joint military exercises with the United States in areas adjacent to the Thai-Cambodian border with a view to threatening the PRK.

The Thai Armed Forces have also occasionally joined the Cambodian reactionaries in carrying out activities to directly resist the Cambodian people by shelling in support of the Cambodian reactionaries, carrying out aerial reconnaissance missions and violating the territorial waters of Cambodia. In February 1987 alone, Thailand violated the territorial airspace and waters of Cambodia on more than 400 occasions.

Following Thailand's assistance and support of the Pol Pot clique of murderers, who killed as many as 3 million people, the prestige of Thailand -- a civilized country whose citizens have continued to cherish justice -- has been undermined while Thai politicians have been criticized as too selfish and unfair. This is because if the Thai side did not assist and foster the Pol Pot clique and the Cambodian reactionaries and did not allow them to use Thai territory as their rear area and did not allow a third country [pathet thisam] to transport weapons to them through Thai territory, the counterrevolutionaries would have been eliminated and the Cambodian problem resolved a long time ago. This is an undeniable fact. Along with their increase of assistance in the form of items, money, weapons, and other military equipment for the Cambodian reactionaries, they have launched propaganda campaigns in support of the military activities of the Cambodian reactionary clique in order to mislead the public into believing there is no safe place in Cambodia and that fighting is taking place throughout Cambodia.

These campaigns are, on the one hand, aimed at sowing doubts in the mind of the general public about security in the PRK and, on the other, creating public pressure on Vietnam to withdraw from Cambodia and accept the proposed talks with the so-called CGDK. Their aforesaid propaganda is all in all a deception, and the proposal for Vietnam to accept talks with the so-called CGDK to discuss a solution to the Cambodian problem does not conform with the true situation in Cambodia. The Cambodian people, therefore, cannot accept such a proposal.

The Cambodian problem must be settled on the basis of the facts concerning the situation in Cambodia. The situation requires that the Cambodian people alone determine the destiny of their own country. The sole true and legitimate representative of the Cambodian people is the PRK Government led by Heng Samrin, the government which was established through elections by the Cambodian people. The government has its offices elegantly situated in Phnom Penh and maintains an organizational network from the central down to the grassroots levels. It has controlled land and people throughout the country, fully operated the state apparatuses of all branches at all levels, and controlled the armed forces and public security forces which develop and strengthen with each passing day.

For more than the past 8 years of consolidation and building, this state power has existed and developed incessantly. The various economic branches which are considered a basis of society have also been consolidated, built, and strengthened while cultural and social establishments have been expanded and the material and spiritual life of the people has been gradually improved. All Cambodian people are marching forward along their chosen path. The status and prestige of the PRK Government have also been raised to a higher level in the international arena. Therefore, without the participation of the PRK Government, no domestic problem or international problem related to Cambodia can be determined. This is the truth about the present situation in Cambodia -- a fact that nobody can deny.

However, the various sides, for example the ultrarightist group in Thailand, which have pursued the policy of the imperialists and international reactionaries, have always tried to deny this fact. As for the so-called CGDK of the Cambodian reactionaries, it is merely a counterrevolutionary organization which exists only through the support and assistance in the form of money and weapons given by the various reactionary powers.

It is a government only by name. It has no body, no land, no office, and no people to rule. Therefore, it is not in a position to represent the Cambodian people.

Nevertheless, implementing the national concordant policy to end the disunity in the country as created by the imperialists and counterrevolutionary reactionaries and to contribute to easing tension in this region and putting an end to the military confrontation, the PRK Government has announced on many occasions its readiness to talk with all Cambodians as well as with all parties which maintain a spirit of achieving national concord on the basis of excluding Pol Pot who has committed numerous crimes against the Cambodian people.

The PRK Government has also made public on many occasions its readiness to hold talks, directly, indirectly or through international organizations, with the Thai side to discuss the problem of Cambodian refugees in Thailand and other problems concerning peace and security along the Cambodian-Thai border. It is regrettable that all these reasonable proposals have been rejected by the Thai side. It is natural that when there is a problem, if no consultative meeting is held, no mutual understanding can be achieved and the problem cannot be settled. As a result, the undesirable situation will continue to exist and develop continually. It can thus cause unexpected bad consequences for both sides.

An act of one side in demanding that another side accept its ideas and measures so as to take advantage of another side and in placing its prestige above that of another side is an act which does not conform with the true situation. Such an act, therefore, cannot be accepted by the Cambodian people or by the Indochinese people as a whole. The Cambodian problem must be settled on the basis of the facts about Cambodia.

COMMENTARY ACCUSES BANGKOK OF DRUG, SPY SLANDER

BK180349 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Unattributed commentary: ["One Must Take Responsibility For Untrue Statements"]

[Text] The BANGKOK POST, quoting a Thai government official, recently published untrue reports which make Laos a target for rumors. What hit the headlines again recently was the fabricated story about drugs in Laos and about the so-called sending of spies to Thailand by Laos. This Thai official, who is in charge of Thai patrol boats along the Mekong River, said that what he had told the BANGKOK POST was only hearsay and there was no evidence to substantiate it.

This is not the first time Thai officials have spread untrue reports about Laos. For example, in the past they charged the Lao side with sending troops to burn down a school in Sangkhom District, [Nong Khai Province], with killing Lao refugees in Phayao Province, and so forth.

Why are some Thai officials trying to tarnish Laos before the world through such reports? What is the purpose of starting such rumors? Thai public opinion has observed that this has taken place at a time when Lao-Thai relations are gradually improving following Arun Phanuphong's visit to Laos and amid preparations for the exchange of visits between high-level Thai and Lao officials to smooth and improve bilateral relations.

It is clear that some groups in Thailand do not want Laos and Thailand to have good relations and therefore have cooked up evil news to sabotage and cloud the brightening atmosphere of Lao-Thai relations and to cause obstacles to, or delay, the exchange of visits between officials of the two countries. Meanwhile, the Thai ultrarightist group has been doing many things that do not promote Lao-Thai relations, such as sending people to collect intelligence information in Laos and using exiled Lao reactionaries to carry out sabotage activities on Lao soil, including the interception of people's passenger cars and transport vehicles and the sending of hooligans to blow up warehouses and plant bombs in populated areas in Laos. The Lao side has obtained much evidence on the incidents which cannot be denied.

The Thai ultrarightist group's acts have caused damage to the building of normal relations between Laos and Thailand and run counter to the two peoples' aspirations for genuine goodneighborly and fraternal relations between the two countries. Therefore, the Thai side must be held responsible for its untrue statements and for its unfriendly acts toward the Lao side.

THAI PEACE, DEVELOPMENT DELEGATION ARRIVES

BK180453 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] In response to an invitation from the Lao Committee for World Peace and for Solidarity and Friendship With Other Nations, a delegation of Thailand's Peace and Development Program led by Dr Khothom Ariya, vice chairman of the program, arrived in the LPDR on 17 March for a 1-week visit.

On hand to greet the delegation at the Tha Deua landing in Hataifong District, Vientiane Municipality, were Hiam Phommachan, vice chairman of the Lao Peace Committee, and some cadres concerned.

KAYSONE PHOMVIHAN RECEIVES AUSTRALIAN ENVOY

BK180449 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] On the afternoon of 17 March, Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the LPDR Council of Ministers, received John Bruce Campbell, Australian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Laos, who has completed his diplomatic mission in Laos.

The conversation between the host and the guest proceeded in a good atmosphere. Kaysone Phomvihan hailed the ambassador for actively carrying out his work, thus contributing to promoting and gradually developing relations between Laos and Australia. At the same time, the chairman of the Council of Ministers wished the ambassador a safe return to his country and success in his new missions.

MINISTRY SPOKESMAN DISPUTES HMONG REFUGEE CHARGES

BK131342 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 13 Mar 87

[Text] Deputy Director General of the Foreign Ministry Information Department Somphan Kokilanon gave the following clarification concerning a report about criticism by a high-level U.S. Government official charging Thai authorities of barring Hmong tribal refugees from taking shelter in Thailand and of preventing foreign embassy officials from visiting those refugees.

[Begin recording] After learning about the report in the press, the Foreign Ministry has inquired about the facts of the story. It has drawn the following conclusion. The Hmong referred to in the report are the 580 Hmong refugees at Ban Nam Phun, in Mae Charim District, Nan Province. They are armed resistance forces fighting against the Lao Government. The policy of the Thai Government is not to give support or to involve in activities of any resistance groups operating in our neighboring countries. It is our policy that there is no fighting between resistance forces and forces of the neighboring countries inside our territory.

The 580 Hmong tribesmen were allowed to take shelter in Thailand out of humanitarian reasons because they fled into Thailand running away from dangers. The Thai Government has never asked for assistance on this matter from any foreign governments or organizations. Concerning the report saying that U.S. officials were unauthorized to visit those people, the Foreign Ministry has learned nothing about such request for visits. Those people are under the supervision of the Interior Ministry.

I believe that, following such a report, Thai authorities concerned would check about it and take appropriate action. As far as the Foreign Ministry is concerned, there has been no policy statement from the Thai Government or from any government agencies concerning steps to be taken -- whether the group of those Hmong refugees would be pushed out or not. As a general rule, Thailand will push out any foreign armed elements from the country to prevent incursions, violations, and use of Thai security authorities. If they are found inside Thailand, those people will have to be disarmed immediately. [end recording]

More Immigrants Rounded Up 18 Mar

BK180205 Bangkok THE NATION in English 18 Mar 87 p 5

[Text] Loei -- Policemen yesterday pushed almost 100 Laotian hilltribes people who tried to sneak across the border into a refugee camp here back into Laos, official sources said.

Acting on a tip-off, the policemen stopped two six-wheel trucks carrying 97 Hmong illegal immigrants at a checkpoint along a highway in Tambon Huai Phichai of Pakchom District, said the sources.

They said the policemen arrested seven Thai villagers, who accompanied the illegal hilltribes immigrants, and charged them with allegedly helping the Laotians to sneak across the border into Thailand.

The sources said the Hmong crossed Mekong River which marks the Thai-Laotian border and were trying to sneak into Ban Winai refugee camp, hoping to be resettled in the third countries. Ban Winai currently shelters over 40,000 Hmong tribal refugees from the neighbouring Laos.

The Thai authorities handed over the illegal immigrants to the Laotian troops positioned at Ban Huai-kha Village in Vientiane Province opposite this northeastern province, the sources said.

Meanwhile, local security officers and border patrol police Sunday inspected Ban Winai in search of the illegal hilltribes immigrants who were believed to be hiding with the Laotian Hmong refugees in the camp.

The officials rounded up about 130 Hmong people who were suspected to be the Laotian illegal immigrants inside the camp. The sources said the suspects were detained at Pakchom district hall, pending repatriation.

The suspects confessed that they had paid the Thai villagers to take them across the border into Thailand and sneak into the refugee camp. They said Thais had charged them 4,000 baht each.

The authorities reported that the population in Ban Winai has increased from about 45,000 to 60,000 due to the influx of the illegal Hmongs from Laos.

U.S. officials have expressed concern over the Thai repatriation of the Laotian Hmong people without trying to determine whether they want to resettle.

PRIME MINISTER PREM PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT TO SPAIN

For reportage of Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon's official visit to Spain see the Spain section of the 17 March Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

FOREIGN MINISTER SITTHI MEETS FRG'S GENSHER IN BONN

For reportage on the 15 March meeting between Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila and his FRG counterpart Hans-Dietrich Genscher, see the Federal Republic of Germany section of the 18 March Western Europe DAILY REPORT.

SRV PLANS TO WITHDRAW FROM CAMBODIA 'BY 1990'

LD171400 Stockholm Domestic Service in Swedish 1130 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] We now have a report from our correspondent Christian Andersson in Hanoi. Vietnam will withdraw its troops from Cambodia by 1990 at the latest. This promise was made today to Swedish Minister of Development Aid Lena Hjelm-Wallen by the SRV foreign minister in Hanoi. Lena Hjelm-Wallen does not want to link continued Swedish aid to Vietnam with the withdrawal of troops from Cambodia, but, according to our correspondent, it would be very difficult for Sweden to continue giving aid if the promise to withdraw is not kept.

[Andersson] Once again SRV foreign minister and now Vice Premier Nguyen Co Thach is reiterating his promise to the Swedish Government via Minister of Development Aid Lena Hjelm-Wallen that the last SRV forces will have left Cambodia by 1990. We are certain that Pol Pot cannot return to power, says Foreign Minister Thach. The Cambodians are now taking more responsibility for guarding the border with Thailand where the guerrillas have their bases. Inside Cambodia the Cambodian army has up to 60-70 percent responsibility, he says. It seems almost incomprehensible why 100,000-150,000 SRV soldiers are still needed in Cambodia. But it is, one the other hand, a promise to the Cambodian people, says the foreign minister.

The lofty SRV promise to withdraw means that the Swedish Government, in the person of its development aid minister, is spared a discussion about politically sensitive alternatives. We trust the SRV promise, says Lena Hjelm-Wallen, who certainly does not want to say that withdrawal by 1990 is a condition for continued Swedish aid; this would be regarded as blackmail which is not in accordance with the Swedish aid policy.

However, the whole thing became a series of diplomatic maneuvers while, at the same time, the Swedish Government says that Sweden attaches the greatest importance to the SRV promise and that Vietnam's military presence in Cambodia is a burden on aid work. Thus the Swedish aid remains firm in the Cambodian [word indistinct]. It would be extraordinarily difficult even for a Social Democratic Government to continue aid after 1990 if SRV troops are still in Cambodia then. Therefore, the coming years will be decisive for Swedish-Vietnamese cooperation. Most diplomatic observers in Hanoi, including the Swedish Embassy, want to attach major reservations to the Vietnamese promise. Throughout Vietnam's history the country's national security interests have proved to be more important than international pressure.

Pham Van Dong Discusses Withdrawal

BK171626 Hong Kong AFP in English 1600 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Hanoi, March 17 (AFP) -- Vietnam will withdraw its troops from Cambodia in 1990 even if the Khmer Rouge remain, Premier Pham Van Dong said here Tuesday. Vietnam would go ahead with its withdrawal plans "even if the Pol Potists still exist," Mr Dong said in an interview with Swedish journalists, adding that he did not believe that the Khmer Rouge could return to government in Cambodia.

A visiting Swedish aid official indicated Tuesday that Sweden, one of Vietnam's few remaining Western aid donors, could review cooperation with Hanoi if it did not withdraw from Cambodia by 1990.

Vietnam has said in the past that it would withdraw its troops from Cambodia by 1990, but has also said that it will pull out only if the Khmer Rouge were eliminated, a position reiterated Friday by Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach.

Hundreds of thousands of people are believed to have been killed when the Khmer Rouge under Pol Pot ruled Cambodia between 1975 and late 1978, when Vietnamese troops intervened.

The Khmer Rouge now forms part of a United Nations-recognised tripartite resistance coalition battling an estimated 140,000 Vietnamese troops supporting the Hanoi-installed Phnom Penh government.

Mr Dong said Tuesday that "all concerned countries should reflect with a view to contributing to the search for a political solution" in Cambodia, adding that "time has brought this problem to maturity." Mr Dong said that Hanoi was "absolutely not worried" by any prospect of a solution being agreed above Vietnam's head by China and Moscow.

A joint communique issued after a visit here by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze earlier this month stated that there would be no normalisation of relations between Vietnam of the Soviet Union and China at the expense of a third country, taken as a reference to the Cambodian situation. [sentence as received] China has cited the Vietnamese presence in Cambodia as one of three obstacles to normalising relations with Moscow.

Lena Hjelm-Wallen, the Swedish minister for international development assistance, indicated during a joint press conference with Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach Tuesday that Sweden could review its cooperation with Vietnam if its troops were not out of Cambodia by 1990. But she stressed that she was not threatening Vietnam in any way.

Mrs Wallen said she had held "constructive" talks about Cambodia during her visit here and had received "good promises" concerning a Vietnamese pullout. She recalled that Sweden had criticized the Vietnamese troop presence in Cambodia for several years.

During a banquet in her honor Monday, Mrs Wallen said "Sweden attaches great importance to Vietnam's decision to withdraw its troops from Kampuchea (Cambodia) in 1990 at the latest."

"It is vitally important that the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Kampuchea be restored and preserved," she added. She would not directly link aid with the troop withdrawal, but said that "1990 is a very important date for us."

Mr Dong, asked by Swedish journalists about the "errors" which the Vietnamese leadership has acknowledged were made in the past 10 years, said that "the most serious was to think that we could do things which in fact were beyond our capacity."

On plans to hand over power to a younger generation of leaders, Mr Dong quoted a Vietnamese proverb that "the old bamboo gives way to the young shoots," adding "we are very confident in the young generation. It will do what we were unable to do." Asked why he had remained in power after saying publicly that he would hand over to younger men, he said with a laugh: "What must happen, will happen. You should not be impatient."

PHAM VAN DONG RECEIVES SWEDISH MINISTER 17 MAR

OW171858 Hanoi VNA in English 1528 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 17 -- Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong received at the presidential palace here this afternoon Ms Lena Hjelm Wallen, development aid minister of Sweden. Present at the reception also were Vo Van Sung, assistant to the foreign minister, and Swedish Ambassador to Vietnam Carl Erhark Lindahl.

On behalf of the Vietnamese Government and people, Chairman Pham Van Dong welcomed the Swedish minister's visit to Vietnam. He expressed gratitude to the late Prime Minister Olof Palme, Prime Minister I. Carlsson, and the Swedish people for their generous aid to Vietnam. For their part, he said, the Vietnamese people will try to make better use of Sweden's humanitarian aid.

In reply, Ms Lena Hjelm-Wallen said she was very happy to pay her first visit to Vietnam. She expressed satisfaction at the effective cooperation between the two countries and wished for further promotion of these relations.

NHAN DAN Hails Visit

OW170801 Hanoi VNA in English 0721 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 17 -- Welcoming the current visit by the Swedish development and minister Ms Lena Hjelm-Wallen, NHAN DAN today expresses the hope that it will contribute to further strengthening and developing the friendship and cooperation between the two governments and peoples.

The paper notes that the peoples of Vietnam and Sweden have long been bound by a close friendship, mutual understanding and mutual assistance. The Vietnamese people will forever remember the late Prime Minister Olof Palme who together with other prominent political and social figures in Sweden took to the streets to collect signatures to a joint declaration protesting against the U.S. war in Vietnam.

NHAN DAN continues: "After the restoration of peace in Vietnam, the relations between the two countries have taken one step further. The Swedish Government and people have been helping the Vietnamese people overcome the heavy consequences of the war. The present government headed by Prime Minister I. Carlsson continuing the line of Prime Minister Olof Palme has persistently and actively supported the reconstruction of Vietnam. Prime Minister I. Carlsson has declared that Swedish Government and people following the road charted by Prime Minister Olof Palme, will continue helping the Vietnamese build their country, and expressed his belief that the Sweden-Vietnam friendly relations would develop with every passing day. In this spirit, the Swedish Government and people have helped the Vietnamese people build some important projects such as the Bai Beng pulp and paper mill in Vinh Phu Province, the Olof Palm Institute for Children healthcare in Hanoi, the Uong Bi hospital and the Thu Duc power plant".

"The Vietnamese people take this opportunity to express their sincere thanks to the Swedish Government and people for their valuable support and assistance to their revolutionary cause," the paper says in conclusion.

VO VAN KIET SAYS NO NEW PREMIER BEFORE JUNE

BK180646 Hong Kong AFP in English 0633 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Hanoi, March 18 (AFP) -- Vietnam will not have a new premier until at least two months after legislative elections to be held on April 19, vice-premier Vo Van Kiet has said. A successor for Pham Van Dong will be chosen among Vietnam's current leadership, he told foreign journalists Tuesday.

"It is not so important that he is young or old, as long as he has experience in the economy," said Mr. Kiet, 64, who is among those favored for the job.

Mr. Dong, 80, is said to be ailing. He has already dropped his responsibilities within the Vietnamese Communist Party, although he retains a powerful position as an adviser, observers say, and has asked to be relieved as prime minister.

Under the constitution, Vietnam's head of government and state government chairman are elected by the National Assembly. The new assembly is to hold its first session in June.

Mr. Kiet, ranked fifth in the communist party Politburo, is from southern Vietnam, which is economically more developed than the north. He said he began a career as an economist in 1975 after the end of the Vietnam war. He notably worked with Nguyen Van Linh, now communist party general secretary, in Ho Chi Minh City, formally the southern capital of Saigon.

Also tipped by observers to become premier are two fellow vice-premiers -- Do Muoi, 70, who has a background in trade and economics, and Vo Chi Cong, 73, who specialized in agriculture from 1976 to 1982.

NGHE TINH, LANG SON PREPARE FOR ELECTIONS

BK160615 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 7 Mar 87 p 1

[Text] The people's councils and the people's committees of various districts, villages, and corresponding levels in Nghe Tinh have met to review activities in the past term of office and to hear voters' critical views. Various deputies of the Seventh National Assembly have taken turns getting in touch with and attentively listening to the people's suggestions and aspirations.

All party organizations and chapters in the entire province have met to keep themselves fully informed of party instructions and of electoral regulations in order to unify all leadership steps to ensure a democratic and law-abiding elections. Various sectors such as communications and transportation, trade, and food have devised plans to provide good service to this election.

The National Assembly deputies of Lang Son Province have also met to review activities in the past term of office and to hear the grass-roots level give its opinions on their activities. They have accepted many views on nationalities policy -- the policy regarding the training of ethnic minority cadres, the policy toward those lowland cadres working in mountain regions, and the cooperativization movement in mountain regions. The provincial VFF committee has held its first consultative conference, prepared a list of candidates, and gone down to the grass-roots level to solicit voters' opinions. All questions raised by the masses have been clearly and openly noted in various reports and have been promptly solved.

HANOI REPORTS ON POSTING OF VOTER LISTS

BK170749 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] Voter lists are posted at almost all constituencies in Vietnam. The people in Hanoi, Ha Nam Ninh, Dac Lac, and Lam Dong Provinces have already chosen eligible candidates for the elections to the National Assembly and the People's Councils to be held on 19 April. Two-thirds of the candidates in Lam Dong Province are ethnic minority people.

Worthy of note is that many of the candidates are women and half of them is from 21 to 35 years old.

CIRCULAR ISSUED ON MASS ORGANIZATION CONGRESSES

BK120510 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 27 Feb 87 pp 1, 4

[Text] The Secretariat of the party Central Committee recently issued the following circular on guiding various mass organizations in holding their congresses:

The Secretariat has agreed to let the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, the Vietnam Women's Union, and the Preparatory Committee of the Vietnam Collectivized Peasants Association hold their national congresses of delegates in 1987.

The congresses of these mass organizations are broad campaigns of political activities of youths, women, and peasants. These congresses should meet the following requirements:

-- There must be a thorough understanding of the viewpoint that "the people are to be considered as the roots" so as to make the process of preparing for and holding the congresses a process of developing the spirit of collective mastery, promoting the activity and creative revolutionary actions of large numbers of the mass organizations members, and bringing into play the great role of the mass organizations in fulfilling the socioeconomic tasks laid down by the sixth national party congress.

-- There must be a marked renovation of the nature and methods of operation of the mass organizations as well as a renovation of their organizational and cadre work to suit the requirements of their new tasks. The mass organizations must be built into stable and strong bodies from their grass-roots units upward.

All party committee echelons should do a good job of leading the mass organization congresses in their localities to meet these requirements by all means. They must pay attention to:

-- Satisfactorily guiding the preparation of reports to be presented to the congress of each mass organization and organizing democratic and serious discussions of these reports in the congresses at local levels. Practical guidelines, targets, and work methods should be formulated on the basis of a thorough understanding of the basic contents of the sixth party congress resolution on mass motivation and the functions and tasks of each mass organization. The mass organizations' activites should be geared to formulating social policies and supervising and controlling their implementation. The mass organizations should actively participate in implementing the three economic programs in their localities and throughout the country.

This activity should be closely combined with the campaign to purify and enhance the combativeness of party organizations, to purify and raise the managerial efficiency of the state apparatus, to roll back and eliminate negative phenomena, to promote healthier social relations, and to realize social justice.

-- Satisfactorily leading the preparation of personnel involved in the congresses at all levels, especially the key cadres of each mass organization, to ensure successiveness [tinh kees thuwaf] and renovation. Elections of leadership organs and delegations to attend the upper-level congresses must be conducted in a truly democratic manner, in strict accordance with the established criteria and guidelines on the composition of such delegations. Subjectivism and imposition must be avoided.

-- Conducting preliminary reviews of the implementation of various party directives and resolutions concerning youth, woman, and peasant motivation work and leading the state organs at all levels in promulgating and implementing, according to their functions and duties, systems and policies to create favorable conditions for the mass organizations to carry out their activities.

-- Leading propaganda work of the central and local newspapers and radio stations concerning the mass organizations' activities before and after their congresses and instructing the administration at all levels to assist and create favorable conditions for the mass organizations to hold their congresses in a solemn, practical, economical, and efficient manner, thereby arousing their members' enthusiasm and confidence.

The standing committees of all party committee echelons should exert collective leadership over the congress of each mass organization; they should not assign this task exclusively to the comrade deputy party committee secretary on duty or the comrade standing member of the party committee in charge of mass motivation work. This is to ensure that the mass organizations will hold their low-level congresses in a satisfactory fashion and will eventually achieve fine success in their national congresses.

CRACKDOWN ON SMUGGLING, SPECULATION IN LONG XUYEN

BK160626 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 3 Mar 87, p 4

[Text] Long Xuyen is the center of An Giang Province. Trade links and circulation of goods among districts in the province and surrounding provinces have gathered in Long Xuyen market. Capitalizing on the general difficult situation caused by the fluctuation of prices, speculators and smugglers have surreptitiously operated to disrupt the market.

Responsible market management sectors have coordinated with various mass organizations and grassroots level units to step up their professional operations. In only a month or so, market management control and security units in city wards have detected and arrested 1,575 cases of speculation, smuggling, forgery, and other illegal businesses. Some of these cases involved a large volume of goods such as 8,500 meters of assorted fabrics, 15,000 packs of cigarettes, and 300 kgr of monosodium glutamate. The value of some industrial goods in many cases was up to 100,000 dong each and in three cases up to 1 million dong each.

The city's economic management council meets weekly to quickly deal with violations, and has thus far dealt with 1,560 cases, including 77 cases of imposing tax fines, 27 cases of confiscatory purchases, and 1,171 cases of mere confiscation.

4 KILLED, 39 INJURED IN MILITARY ACADEMY BOMBING

HK180933 Hong Kong AFP in English 0913 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Baguio, March 18 (AFP) -- Four people were killed and 39 injured in a bomb blast at the elite Philippine Military Academy (PMA) in this northern city Wednesday, officials said. In a separate incident, 19 soldiers were killed and seven wounded when suspected communist guerrillas ambushed an Army convoy southeast of Manila Tuesday, the official PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY (PNA) said Wednesday.

Two soldiers and a woman were killed immediately in the blast which occurred at about 9:45 a.m. (0145 GMT), and a colonel died from shrapnel wounds at a nearby hospital, PMA superintendent Brigadier General Rodolfo Biazon told reporters. Thirty-nine people, including 14 military officers, 11 enlisted men and 13 civilians were injured in the blast, which Brig-Gen Biazon said damaged the PMA grandstand.

Defense Secretary Rafael Ileto told reporters in Manila that the bomb was planted in the roof of the grandstand, which was being used in rehearsals for the graduation of this year's cadets. PMA sources in Baguio said that military men and relatives of cadets were watching the rehearsals when the bomb went off.

President Corazon Aquino was due to visit the PMA Sunday to attend the graduation ceremony.

The military said they did not yet have any suspects for the blast. No one has claimed responsibility for the bombing.

Mr Ileto could not say what type of bomb caused the blast. The PNA said it was a time bomb, while government television reported that the explosion damaged the rostrum to be used by Mrs Aquino Sunday. The station also quoted unnamed military officials as saying the bomb appeared to have been planted a few days earlier.

The PMA, the local equivalent of America's West Point or Britain's Sandhurst, produces most of the military officers of this country. Many of the casualties were scheduled to receive awards Sunday from Mrs Aquino, military spokesmen said.

Mrs Aquino would go to Baguio Thursday to visit the wounded, Presidential Secretary Teodoro Benigno said. He added that there might be some delay in Sunday's planned graduation ceremony. [passage omitted]

Military Blames 'Terrorists'

HK181347 Hong Kong AFP in English 1337 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Manila, March 18 (AFP) -- Military officials said here that terrorists were behind the bombing Wednesday of an elite military school in Baguio which killed four people.

The official PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY (PNA) said the Defense Secretary Rafael Ileto drew parallels between the explosion at the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) grandstand in Baguio City and a bombing three years ago in Burma which killed six South Korean Government officials.

General Fidel Ramos, the Armed Forces chief, said that they do not have any definite suspects at the moment. "This serves notice for us to be careful and we should not take things for granted even if things seem peaceful on the surface," he said.

Colonel Honesto Isleta, the Armed Forces spokesman, said "unidentified terrorists" were behind the bombing of the PMA, scheduled to be visited by President Corazon Aquino Sunday. "Now they are fighting not only (the Armed Forces) but the entire Pilipino people," he told reporters aboard Gen. Ramos' plane. General Ramos celebrated his 59th birthday Wednesday in the northern province of Isabela with his 117th parachute jump.

Mr. Ileto, a retired general, said the Rangoon bombing which was blamed on North Korea was "similar" to the PMA blast "in the sense that the bomb was placed in the ceiling," PNA quoted him as saying.

19 SOLDIERS KILLED, 7 HURT IN QUEZON NPA AMBUSH

HK180632 Quezon City Sports Radio 738 in English 0600 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Nineteen Army soldiers were killed and seven others wounded in an ambush by suspected New People's Army men yesterday afternoon in Barangay Ilayang Bakung, Catanauan, Quezon. Camp Nakar sources in Lucena did not disclose the names of the fatalities and wounded soldiers.

Sources said a V-150 armored vehicle and a 6 by 6 truck loaded with soldiers were blown up with land mines planted by the ambushers. The rebels, estimated to be at least 100, later carted away at least 27 high-powered firearms of the Army troopers. There was no casualty on the rebels' side.

RAMOS ORDERS STRONGER RESPONSE TO NPA ATTACKS

HK180207 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] At Basa Airbase, Pampanga, Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fidel Ramos yesterday [17 March] issued a 3-point directive to his field commanders in a bid to tighten the government's counterinsurgency operations.

Presiding over a command conference of military commanders in Central Luzon, Ramos ordered them to conduct armed pursuit without delay in case of an attack by communist rebels on any police or military installation or government center, to provide security patrols in areas threatened or attacked by communist rebels, to prevent their grouping, to hit hard during attacks, and to control and annihilate rebels of the New People's Army. Ramos said that he issued the order following attacks by NPA rebels on military camps and detachments around the country lately.

AQUINO, CABINET APPROVE LAND REFORM PLAN

HK181148 Hong Kong AFP in English 1144 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Manila, March 18 (AFP) -- Philippine President Corazon Aquino and her cabinet approved in principle Wednesday a comprehensive land reform plan drawn up by the Agrarian Reform Department, a government spokesman said.

Under the program, 2.2 million hectares (5.5 million acres) of land will be distributed to farmers from 1987-89, at a cost of some 35 billion pesos (1.7 billion U.S. dollars), with more and to be doled out later, Press Secretary Teodoro Benigno said. Mr Benigno told reporters the program "is still being refined," but its approval in principle paves the way for its being implemented before Congress convenes in July.

Various sectors have called on Mrs Aquino to distribute farm lots to landless tenants using legislative power which would be taken away from her when the legislature opens. Leftist groups fear that big landlord families aspiring for seats in Congress would block legislation aimed at carving up big estates.

Landlessness is a main driving force behind the 18-year-old communist insurgency in the Philippines, observers say.

Mr Benigno said possible sources of new financing for the land reform program were the national budget, grants, soft loans, special taxes, shares of stocks in government-controlled firms and sale of idle firms and properties taken over by the government.

AQUINO ORDERS CHDF, VIGILANTE GROUPS DISBANDED

HK161341 Hong Kong AFP in English 1332 GMT 16 Mar 87

[Text] Manila, March 16 (AFP) -- Philippine President Corazon Aquino has ordered the Civilian Home Defense Forces (CHDF) militia and private armed groups to be disbanded, officials here said Monday.

In a directive Mrs Aquino stressed constitutional provisions saying: "All paramilitary forces, including CHDF, not consistent with the citizen armed force established in this constitution, will be dissolved or where appropriate converted into the regular force."

The order was issued to Defense Secretary Rafael Ileto and Local Governments Secretary Jaime Ferrer on Friday. The directive implements a provision in the newly-ratified Constitution calling for the dissolution of such groups.

Mrs Aquino also ordered the creation of a national police force under civilian authority in accordance with the new Constitution. The police are now under military control.

Government television reported Monday that the order affected anti-communist vigilante groups such as the 3,000-member Alsa Masa, or Arise Masses, and the Nakasaka, or United People for Peace, set up with the support of Mr Ferrer.

The CHDF has been sharply criticized by human rights groups in the past while the Alsa Masa and Nakasaka, both created in 1986, have recently been criticized by leftist groups.

Futher on Disbandment

HK180203 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Excerpts] The Civilian Home Defense Forces [CHDF] will not be disbanded, as reported earlier. President Aquino clarified the report that she ordered the abolition of the CHDF. [sentence as heard] Art Pabellon reports on that issue:

[Begin recording] President Corazon Aquino has ordered the disbandment of all private armies and other armed groups, including the Civilian Home Defense Forces in compliance with the Constitution. The directive was contained in [words indistinct] which President Aquino issued to Local Government Secretary Jaime Ferre and National Defense Secretary Rafael Ileto last Friday, March 13.

The president pointed out the following provision in Section 24 of Article 18 of the 1986 Constitution which prohibits armies and other armed groups not recognized by duly constituted [word indistinct] shall be dismantled. All paramilitary forces, including the Civilian Home Defense Forces, not consistent with the citizens' armed force established in this Constitution shall be dissolved or (?where) appropriate, converted into regular troops. She directed Secretaries Ferrer and Ileto to take immediate steps so that this constitutional provision is complied with.

In another development, President Aquino yesterday underscored the importance of air mobility in ensuring the safety of government soldiers in their battle against the insurgents. That is why I have argued, almost nagged, for greater air mobility, the president stressed in her speech during the silver anniversary celebration of the Armed Forces of the Philippines Logistics Command at Camp Aguinaldo. I know that combat helicopters are not the ultimate solution to insurgency, she said, not even the last word in tactical advantage in counterinsurgency. But I do know that speed saves lives and safety of our soldiers.

She pointed out that her government's counterinsurgency campaign involves a pincer movement -- military operations by one flank and a development initiative on the other. She added that in the center of the pincer movement is an offer of amnesty to those who see the futility of their struggle and the sincerity of our efforts to bring justice and progress to all our people. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fidel Ramos also clarified the reported disbandment of the CHDF. Gen Ramos said President Aquino did not order the disbandment of paramilitary forces but asked Defense Secretary Rafael Ileto and Local Government Secretary Jaime Ferrer to conduct a study and submit their recommendations on the CHDF within 45 days, or up to April 30. Ramos explained that the paramilitary forces would be converted into something else and that they would not be immediately disbanded. He added that the government would provide a transition period to convert the CHDF into civilian security units under the provisions of the new Constitution. Ramos pointed out that the government's program on paramilitary units would not allow the creation of a vacuum that would endanger the security of the people in the barangays. He also said the paramilitary units are existing under government and military control.

Magno, Ferrer, Enrile Comment

HK130938 Hong Kong AFP in English 0914 GMT 13 Mar 87

[Text] Manila, March 13 (AFP) -- The chief military adviser of President Corazon Aquino hailed Friday the formation of unarmed civilian patrols against leftist rebels in rural villages on the southern island of Mindanao.

Retired Major General Jose Magno said the patrols were preventing communist New People's Army (NPA) tax collectors in Davao del Sur Province from entering villages, reducing the rebel funds "to a new low."

He said the United People for Peace (Nakasaka), which formed the patrols with government help, was "people power against the NPA," citing the term for the February 1986 nonviolent revolt that swept Mrs Aquino to power. "Even without weapons, they're guard at night ... this has a definite effect on the people, which once upon a time were cowed by the NPA."

Local Government Secretary Jaime Ferrer has said that the Nakasaka could serve as a model for other areas affected by the insurgency.

The NPA controls or influences hundreds of rural villages in Mindanao, where Mr Magno served as supreme military commander until he retired last year. He indicated that an armed vigilance group called Alsa Masa (Masses Arise) operating in Davao City was being monitored for possible abuses. Any member who commits a crime has to be prosecuted, he said.

Critics, including church human rights groups, have accused the Alsa Masa of extortion and bullying residents into supporting their cause. Former Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile said Friday that the formation of Alsa Masa and Nakasaka showed that people believed government security efforts were inadequate.

History of CHDF Reviewed

HK171237 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 17 Mar 87 pp 1, 10

[By D. Florida]

[Text] The CHDF [Civilian Home Defense Forces] disbandment will be a "considerable handicap" for the military particularly on providing village defense services for hinterland communities, senior and junior officers at Camp Aguinaldo said.

The officers, who requested anonymity, said they were sure their observation echoed those of the Armed Forces' top command.

They pointed out, however, that the military leadership would abide by President Aquino's decision and would take steps to augment the military's village defense program.

"Steps have to be taken to see to it that far-flung areas troubled with the insurgency problem will not be left defenseless against rebel atrocities," one of them said.

The CHDF was a creation of the Marcos rule.

It was established in 1976 during the martial law period through Presidential Decree 1016.

The decree, seen as one of the most unpopular of the deposed dictator's, provided that the CHDFs were to serve [as] the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] auxiliary force of civilian volunteers for home defense.

The decree was supposedly in accordance with provisions of Commonwealth Act No 1, otherwise known as the National Defense Act. It mandated the establishment of a citizens armed force consisting of regular troops and reserved forces that may be called upon from time to time to help in the defense of the country.

The objective behind the creation of the CHDF was laudable, but the militiamen, it turned out, were used in the past regime in its terror campaign. Many of the CHDF's units and members were reportedly involved in syndicated crimes.

Some of them were also used by political warlords as their private armies.

The CHDFs used to number some 76,000 before the February Revolution. It was later pruned by AFP Chief of Staff Fidel V. Ramos as part of military effort to cleanse the CHDF ranks of "misfits" and "scalawags".

The disbandment order came amid protests by certain groups, including the militant Partido ng Bayan [People's Party], of military use of supposed anti-communist vigilante groups like the Sagrada Corazon de Jesus [Sacred Heart of Jesus] or Tadtad [Chop-chop -- from their practice of chopping up their enemies], a religious sect, and the Alsa Masa [People's Uprising], an organization of former rebels bent on battling their former comrades.

ENRILE SUPPORTS VIGILANTES; NPA CLASHES REPORTED

BK141330 Hong Kong AFP in English 1241 GMT 14 Mar 87

[Text] Manila, March 14 (AFP) -- Eleven communist New People's Army (NPA) guerrillas and two civilians have been killed in fighting during the past four days, the official PHILIPPINES NEWS AGENCY reported Saturday. Meanwhile, former Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile Saturday backed the rise of armed anti-communist groups in the Philippines, saying people have the right to defend themselves if the government cannot give them ample protection.

The latest clashes in the 18-year-old communist rebellion occurred Wednesday and Thursday in the northeastern provinces of Kalinga-Apayao and Pampanga, Camarines Sur and Eastern Samar in the central islands, and Bukidnon in the south, PNA said, citing military reports.

Two NPA guerrillas were killed in a firefight with an army patrol near Conner town in Kalinga-Apayao Thursday, while three rebels were killed in another gunbattle near Bacolor town in Pampanga on the same day, PNA said. Two rebels were killed in fighting in Digun town in Camarines Sur Thursday, and another died in a clash with soldiers in nearby Sipocot town. Three NPA men were also slain near Oras town in Eastern Samar Wednesday, PNA said. NPA rebels ambushed a logging truck near Talaog town in Bukidnon Thursday, killing a civilian couple and wounding a policeman and a civilian who hitched a ride, the news agency said.

Mr Enrile said Saturday that the rise of vigilante groups "is a logical offshoot of a situation where people are helpless against forces out to destroy their tranquility and freedom and government cannot seem to stop them."

Armed anti-communist vigilantes known as Alsa Masa (Arise Masses) hold sway in several villages in the insurgency-torn southern island of Mindanao. Human rights groups and the press have alleged that the military is arming them. They enjoy the tacit support of the military which held reservations about President Corazon Aquino's failed attempt at seeking a negotiated solution to the rebellion.

Mr Enrile, meeting with the press in the central city of Bacolod in the course of his campaign for the May 11 senate elections, urged citizens in other regions to form similar self-defense groups.

"The people have to do everything to defend themselves -- with bolos (machetes) or with the use of bamboo sticks or even with their bare hands," the right-wing opposition leader said.

Another group operating in the southern provinces of Davao known as Nakasaka, which the government claims is composed of unarmed citizen patrols, has been endorsed by Local Governments Secretary Jaime Ferrer as a model for the entire country.

Mr Enrile also criticized a ruling by the government's election watchdog Commission on Electrons (Comelec) prohibiting soldiers from bringing their firearms outside their barracks during the current campaign period. The ruling would make soldiers "open targets" of the NPA and other lawless elements, he said, adding: "It creates an impression that Comelec perceived the military as an enemy of the people and the enemy of the government."

PRIEST TO BE CHARGED IN REBEL AMBUSH, KILLINGS

HK150610 Hong Kong AFP in English 0557 GMT 15 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Cagayan de Oro, Philippines, March 15 (AFP) -- A Roman Catholic priest is to be charged with the murder of five soldiers and three civilians killed in a communist rebel ambush, military commanders said here Sunday.

The eight victims, who had been working on a government road project, were killed Saturday when the truck they were riding in was attacked by 20 communist rebels in neighboring Misamis Oriental Province. Three soldiers were wounded and five rifles stolen.

The parish priest, from a town near the ambush site, will be charged with murder and attempted murder, military commanders said.

They said the priest had been found riding a white Volkswagen that was allegedly used by the rebels in the ambush, military commanders here said. A soldier who survived the attack told AGENCIE FRANCE-PRESSE that from his hiding place, he saw the volkswagen approach the ambushed truck. Four people then got out, shooting at wounded soldiers, and took their weapons, laughing and joking amongst themselves as they did so, he said.

The white Volkswagen, owned by the priest, was stopped by reinforcements who were going to scene of the ambush. The priest and three other passengers were inside it when it was stopped.

The priest was released after questioning by the military and was not immediately available for comment. [passage omitted]

CATHOLIC CLERGY BANNED FROM POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

HK140915 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 14 Mar 87 pp 1, 6

[By staff member Marites Sison]

[Text] The country's Catholic Church has banned its priests and nuns from running for public office, accepting positions "which demand the exercise of civil power," and campaigning for any political party or candidate.

The guidelines for the clergy's political role are detailed in a booklet entitled "A Catechism on the Involvement of Priests in Political Activity" prepared by Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin, the auxiliary bishops of Manila and the presbyterium of Manila Archdiocese.

Copies of the booklet were distributed yesterday to church's 72 dioceses.

Under the guidelines, priests should not campaign for any party or candidate since "no particular party platform or candidate can adequately represent the Gospel in its entirety," and "active militancy" may only "alienate those who do not agree with (the priests') choice."

It likewise reiterated the Catholic Bishop Conference of the Philippines' (CBCP) most recent statement that the Church hierarchy has forbidden priests "to join or support such organizations or movements that advocate the use of violence or class struggle."

"It is not possible for a priest to become a member of the Communist Party of the Philippines and still be in good terms with the Church," Bishop Teodoro Bacani said.

In a press conference yesterday, Sin said, however, the ban was "not absolute." Members of the clergy could still get involved in politics "if the defense of the rights of the Church demands it, when such involvement is demanded by the mission to evangelize, when the means they use is in consonance with the Gospel and when the common good requires it," Bacani said.

Bacani said the bishops, in consultation with their "Council of Priests" will judge whether or not they will allow members of their diocese to run for public office. If the bishops and members of this council are unable to make a decision, then "they ought to consult the whole Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines," Bacani said.

Asked about the recent announcement of the left-leaning Partido ng Bayan that it was going to field three Catholic priests as congressional candidates, Sin said, "we still have to seek verification about that matter." Bacani however said, the fact that these priests are "associated" with the PNB "worries me a little."

The booklet, which is meant for the country's 5,000 priests and 9,000 nuns is necessary to "enlighten the people on the role of priests in politics," Sin said. He added it was necessary to "avoid mistakes" on the part of the members of the clergy.

The 15-page booklet also compiled "basic documents on the role of the clergy in political activity" issued by Pope John Paul II and the Synod of Bishops.

When asked to comment on reports of alleged abuses committed in Davao by the anti-Communist group Alsa Masa, Sin said, "I'm still trying to find out what it is. It is not good to comment if we're not sure what it is all about." He added that he will inquire from the Bishop of Davao about reports of mass evacuations there allegedly triggered by the military's counterinsurgency operations.

It is only now that the Church has issued a clearcut and categorical statement on the issue of nuns and priests joining the revolutionary movement because during the Marcos regime, the Church was "in dilemma over the fact that if she condemns such moves, it might be perceived as a support for Marcos," Bacani said.

During Marcos' time there were nuns and priests "who sought tactical alliances without necessarily believing in the left ideology in order to topple the dictatorship," Bacani said.

He said although there were some who eventually became "ideologues" they were "not that many."

But now, Bacani added, the Church has come out with her official position since she is now able to "draw the line because it has now become very clear -- those advocating class struggle do not work according to the church's need and will therefore not have her support." This move, he further explained, is the Church's way of "cleansing her own ranks."

In a related development, Sin said he finds it "impossible to accept" the allegations made by the military against Fr. Rogelio Arguelles, the parish priest of Pilar Capiz who was arrested last Tuesday on suspicion that his rectory had a cache of firearms and that he was aiding communist rebels.

Sin said the firearms "may have been planted" by people whom he declined to identify, and added that contrary to military reports, Arguelles and another priest, Fr. Manolito Gomez "did not escape."

SOVIET SHIP SAID HEADING FOR TAGALOG WITH GUNS

HK181049 Manila THE PHILIPPINE STAR in English 17 Mar 87 pp 1, 6

[By Frankie Tuyay]

[Text] The military is closely watching the country's coastal areas following intelligence reports that a Russian vessel carrying a huge load of high-powered guns and other weapons is on its way here and will unload the war machines before the end of the month.

Intelligence sources told THE STAR that an undetermined number of sophisticated military hardware of Soviet origin is expected to arrive sometime this month, somewhere in the coast of Southern Tagalog.

This latest intelligence report on foreign arms landing follows several reported sightings of foreign vessels disguised as fishing trawlers inside Philippine waters.

Military intelligence identified these vessels as having Japanese, Taiwanese and Russian origins. It said some of them are equipped with sophisticated data collection equipment for intelligence gathering and surveillance.

Defense sources also reported arms landing by foreign vessels early this year in Zambales, Bataan, Surigao del Sur and Bicol. The arms were allegedly intended for local communists.

A military officer who refused to be identified told THE STAR the Soviet Union however will not try any direct confrontation in Southeast Asia because of its "cautious policy" towards the region.

The officer cited a study made by Januz Bugajski, a research specialist at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) at Georgetown University in Massachusetts [as published] which revealed such policy of Moscow toward Southeast Asia.

"The Soviet Union is likely to be cautious in using military force for any direct confrontation in Southeast Asia, but they will fish in troubled waters when they can," the study read.

Defense sources said this explain the covert arms landing by foreign vessels.

Naval authorities, however, gave the assurance that despite the country's long coastline, adequate safeguards have been instituted to defend our territorial waters and the sealanes of the Pacific and South China seas.

Rear Admiral Tagumpay Jardiniano, navy chief, yesterday said the navy and coast guard have the capability of monitoring movements of foreign vessels found to be straying off international waters into the Philippine area.

He added that this capability is further being improved with the implementation last January of a five-year "moderate modernization program" which calls for the construction of some additional 80 medium-sized vessels and the strengthening of existing fleets. The program is being funded under the base compensation package of the United States.

GRAND ALLIANCE FOR DEMOCRACY PLATFORM RELEASED

HK161151 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 16 Mar 87 pp 1, 16

[By Rod L. Villa Jr]

[Text] The Grand Alliance for Democracy [GAD] offered yesterday an alternative program of government aimed at making the Philippines a "newly industrialized country" by the year 2000.

The opposition party's platform cited Jose Rizal's prophecy that the Philippines will become both democratic and industrialized after a century.

The program pointed out that genuine democracy resulting from the forthcoming legislative elections will "create the necessary conditions for the realization" of Rizal's vision, enabling the Philippines to double its per capita income and be at par with Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore.

GAD senatorial candidates Blas F. Ople, Francisco Tatad and Wilson Gamboa released the platform in a media conference at the Asian Institute of Tourism before the proclamation rally at Plaza Miranda Saturday night.

Ople, platform committee chairman, said that party's economic vision, if accepted by the people, "will be the principle that can focus the nation's energies, drive and capability in the next 15 years, and imbue today's productive tasks with a strategic and historic significance."

The document cited China which hopes to achieve its "four modernizations" and Brazil, Mexico, Argentina and Columbia, acknowledged as members fit to join the Organization of Economically Developed Countries [OEDC].

Ople said the program would focus national energies and resources on attaining a "central vision to set free the energies of entrepreneurs from over-regulation and red tape, improve infrastructure, specially in communications, achieve industrial peace, and carry out a firm resolve to plug into the world grid of economic dynamism and technology."

The GAD platform called for a decision to "end the civil war," referring to the communist insurgency, through "a unified national security vision."

On the foreign military bases, the GAD called on the Aquino government to prepare "substitute safeguards" for the country's external security and alternative economic plans to meet the losses of jobs and incomes in the event of a decision to allow the bilateral military agreement to lapse in 1991 without renewal or extension.

The GAD called on the government "to ensure that the bargaining power of the Filipino people will not be impaired because of lack of proper diligence, care, thoroughness and resolution of the national leadership."

On agrarian reform, the program said it must "begin with the biggest landed estates and seep down to the smallest landholdings."

"National leaders who are also big landowners are called upon to demonstrate their capacity for self-abnegation in the pursuit of land reform and social transformation," Ople said.

The GAD also called for a new commission to investigate and prosecute all grafters, not only those identified with the Marcos regime.

Gamboa said charges of graft in the MWSS [Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System] and in the departments of public works and natural resources will be probed by the Senate through a blue ribbon committee.

On human rights, the party said that although the Constitution now exempts no private parties, including the New People's Army, from inquiry on human rights violations, "the government suffers the greater burden to prove that the sovereign power delegated to it, including the naked power of arms, has not been abused to the detriment of a helpless and defenseless citizenry." It referred to the recent massacres of marcher-demonstrators on Mendiola Bridge and of 17 civilians in Lupao, Nueva Ecija.

The document urges "maximum decentralization," claiming provinces and cities remain in bondage to the central government.

On labor, the GAD called for restoration of the minimum wage law, and legislation to implement the new constitutional right of government workers to form their own unions.

The GAD called for immediate implementation of free secondary and compulsory elementary education. On international relations, it proposed the creation of a bipartisan Council of State to deal with foreign policy.

GAD stressed the need for a strong congressional opposition without which "the government can commit errors that could lead to uncontrolled events to open the nation to predatory forces."

The GAD criticized President Aquino's statement discarding the opposition in the Senate, declaring this view "mocks the independence of the legislature, which is a postulate of constitutional democracy; it exalts not democratic pluralism but a one-party state." With the exclusion of the opposition in the legislature, "democracy will collapse even before it has been tried," the platform stated.

The platform was approved by the GAD central committee headed by Vicente G. Puyat. Other members of the platform committee are Arturo Tolentino, Homobono Adaza and Antonio Carag.

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